

A
 TOPOGRAPHICAL, STATISTICAL,
 AND
 DOMESTIC
 HISTORY OF FRANCE

By W. G. JAMIESON.

WITH
 A
 CRITICAL HISTORY OF FRANCE HISTORY OF SPAIN PORTUGAL &c.
 BY FRANCIS YOUNG FRASER, ASSISTED BY G. R. &c.

To kindly seas, & to the gentle mountains reign
 I turn - and France displays her bright domain,
 A gay, sprightly land of mirth and social ease,
 Pleas'd with the self, who all the world can please

The Traveller's Guide to France

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P R E F A C E.

THE SECOND edition of my History of France having been filed for, its revision for press suggested the composition of the present work. However much the history of any country may add to our knowledge by unfolding the treasures of experience which the past has accumulated, it is after all, but a history of politics: it unfolds the secret springs of human actions, which unite their influence to the rise, progress, summit, and gradual fall of empires; it points out in the most emphatic language, the reciprocal influence of government and national manners: it illustrates equally the blessings of political union, and the miseries of factions: but it does not exhibit the laws, religion, intellectual improvement, progress of the arts and science, — and, above all, it does not unfold the domestic history of the people: it does not place us by the fireside circle: nor

In the chequer'd shade
Where youth and old come forth to play
On a sunshiny holiday

nor in the midst of the more sober amusements of their leisure.

This I have attempted to do as relates to France, in the present volume. In these pictorial representations of the people, we also endeavored to describe France as she is, and ever has been, the wonder, delight, and admiration of foreigners. Whatever revolutions the people have passed through, whatever changes the unsparring hand of time may have produced among the successive generations: stirring me in France, the nation's prodigious exertions, her fruitful territory, — her manifold wealth, the fertility of her rivers, seas, have remained inexhaustible, and the country in Europe possesses more abundant in the simple necessities and intoxicating luxuries of perishable man.

From the produce of the country, and the genius of the people, arise those numerous conventional, artificial, and stupendous monuments which all travellers have admired, and which fame reports as distinguishing France for her civilization, her advancement in husbandry, the arts of building, clothing, manufacturing,—her prosecution of the sciences, pure and mixed; her eminence in chemical discoveries, in civil and military engineering—in arms, marine, and jurisprudence. In short, though some Britons can assent to the late M. de Vilelle's assertion, that "France is at the head of European civilization," we are disposed to put her on one flank of the advanced line in the march of intellect and scientific improvement.

I have spared neither labour nor expence in the composition of this little work: the sources whence my information has been drawn are all French: some of them of the older time, many of them but of recent date. The arrangement and plan of the work are my own. From France I received and collected books, maps, and statistical tables, but it was not until my work was half through the press, that I received from M. M. Richster, some numbers of an expensive work published in Paris, by M. de Vilelle, which gives the most perfect picture of France that has ever been published of any country whatever. Had I seen it in the first instance, I should have contented myself with an abridgement of this work; and my own, drawn from many other sources, would have been no longer an original composition, rich in anecdote, and embellished with quotations from the poets of France. But the picture I offer of France furnishes no food for vanity. I would not foster prejudices nor lead to political bigotry; I make few comparisons between France and my own, beloved country. France and England had never been rivals, and to this rivalry they owe many of their excellences. My aim has been to promote general improvement, to encourage public and private virtue, and to cherish the culture of those social feelings which would embrace the good of all mankind; and would, by transplanting the virtues of one country into another, enlighten and enrich the happiness of all!

Wylke, September, 1836.

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· TOPOGRAPHICAL, STATISTICAL,

AND

DOMESTIC HISTORY OF FRANCE.

SECTION I.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, NATURAL BOUNDARIES, AND EXTENT.

IF we divide Europe into North, Middle, and South, France will be the most western country in the central division of the continent, having the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Piedmont on the East; the Mediterranean, with Spain, on the South; and the sea on the West and North. Strong natural barriers, formed by the Pyrenées, the Alpes, the ridge of Jura, and the Vosges, render this country secure on three points, though open on the side of the Netherlands. Her position, between the 43d and 51st degrees of North latitude, and between the 7th degree of West longitude, and 7° also of East longitude, assimilates her climate to the south of Britain and the north of Spain. From East to West, from Alsace to Brittany, France is 650 miles broad; from North to South, 560; and her superficial extent may be reckoned at 128,000,000 of English acres. A surface so vast, and under so great a variety of circumstances, must present many inequalities.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY AND NATURE OF THE SOIL.—In so large a country as France, it need hardly be observed, that its soil is exceedingly varied, or that its vegetable productions are consequently numerous. The effects of fire and water are equally visible from the North to the South and from the East to the West, of this fine country: In the South, in *Auvergne*, *Vivarais*, *Velay*, and *Languedoc*, the influence of fire is most visible; the mountains of *Dome*, *Dor*, and *Cantal*, appear to be a continuous chain of extinct volcanoes; in the single ridge of that of *Dome* from sixty to seventy of the mountains have decided craters



The subterraneous fires still, in different places, send forth their sulphureous vapours. *Mont Saint Leger* emits, not only smoke from its surface, but in the night a light flame, which has been compared to the pale corruscations of the *Aurora Borealis*, is visible in various parts of the mountain. There is another mount of this same description at *Bagnols*, in *Languedoc*. The enormous basaltic rocks which are seen on the banks of the *Volant*, between *Vals* and *Antraigues*, the black lava mountains in *Auvergne*, these are all demonstrations of the action of fire; and the numerous beds of fossil plants and shells, belonging to far distant countries, which have been discovered in the mines and elsewhere, are decided proofs that water has once pervaded many of those parts of the earth which now appear as dry land. The forms even of the rocks of this part of France, bear testimony to this assertion, they all have the appearance of having been rent asunder by some violent agent. Besides these records of depredations long gone by, there are, unfortunately, in later times, proofs that cannot be controverted, of the subterraneous powers which are still in action in the south of France. In 1733, at *Pardine*, near the *Issoire*, in *Auvergne*, one part of the mountain separated itself from the other; some houses, and the rock on which they stood, were swallowed up in an abyss, and the neighbouring earth having lost the support of the rock, part of the hill, 1800 feet long and 1200 broad, detached itself likewise, and slid down with its trees, its houses, and buildings, into the valley of *Crouze*. On the following day another portion of the mountain fell with such a tremendous noise, and producing such a concussion, that many houses were thrown down by its effect; fortunately, the rocks just beneath the mountains received the enormous fragments, and saved the village from ruin. The hamlet of *Bourg*, in the department of *Hautes Alpes*, was, in the beginning of the last century, threatened with a similar misfortune. An immense rock, situated above the hamlet, detached itself with a frightful noise, and the trembling inhabitants fled with precipitation; when they looked back, they beheld a new mountain as it were, separated from the chain of the *Alpes*, split from top to bottom, and overhanging their habitations: and there it still hangs, threatening some day to overwhelm the hamlet and its inhabitants.

In some parts, France presents the most pleasing, the richest,

and the most beautiful landscapes of cultivated country; vineyards, orchards, corn-fields, vie with each other in adorning the neighbourhood of towns and the châteaux of the wealthy inhabitants. Woods and forests cover the mountain tops, or fringe the summits of her verdant hills. Except in the north, the vine is every where cultivated, and in the time of the Romans, the wines of *Vienna*, *Auvergne*, *Helva*, and *Sequanie*, of *Marseille*, and of *Boëtterra*, were in as much repute as the modern wines of *Bourgogne* and *Champagne*; *Normandie* and *Bretagne* abound with fruits; *Picardie* and the *Isle of France*, in grain, which is so luxuriant in some cantons, as to give twenty quintals* of crop per acre for two of seed; thus one-hundredth part of all the wheat-lands produce fifty quintals of seed per acre. The produce of rye varies from eight to ten quintals the acre. The riches of *Lorraine* and *Nivernois* consist in wood; those of *Alsace* in tobacco and wood; *La Touraine* is celebrated for its fruits, particularly its plums and pears; some of these pears were brought from the forests; those of *Saint Germain* were transplanted originally from the forest of that name. The banks of the *Loire*, *La Languie*, and the valleys of *Dauphine*, abound in vegetable treasures. The territory of *Montpellier* alone furnishes seventy-six kinds of lichen, twenty-four of centaury, twenty-four of cistus, twenty-one of ranunculus, and sixteen of veronica. Nothing can be imagined more beautiful than the fields in this neighbourhood, where the olive, the fig, the orange, the lemon, pomegranate, and the mulberry, display their beautiful colours, and emit their delicious perfumes. The *Cevennes* produce the most delicious chestnut, a fruit equally valued by the poor of these mountains, as the bread tree is in the isles of the ocean. The mulberry tree is here so numerous as to constitute what may be termed whole forests, in the midst of which the laurel, myrtle, cedar, ju-jube, mastic, the vine, and the cassia, mingle their beautiful and varied foliage. The south of France abounds likewise with those plants that may be denominated *tinctorial*. The great mulberry trees in the neigh-

* The garden of Charlemagne was considered unique, because it contained apple-trees, pear-trees, nut-trees, plum-trees, and chestnut-trees. In 606, a bishop made a present to his mother of some wild chestnuts and plums, and the present was considered of great value.

Quintal is a cwt. of 112 lbs.

bourhood of *Nîmes*, yield three quintals of leaves annually. There are forty different species of orange trees, and 172 varieties of the fig in *Dauphiné*, *Provence*, and *Languedoc*. Some of the orange trees at *Nice* produce 6000 oranges every year. In *Perpignan* is found that singular vegetable, the truffle. The *Landes* are in some parts peopled with the Spanish broom, wild thyme and lavender; while the forest pine rises to the height of four or five hundred feet, when once it has taken deep and firm root in the soil. In the marshes of *Gasconne*, peppermint spreads its powerful and aromatic perfume around, and counteracts the effects of the miasma of the soil. The tamarind in the *Carnague*, and the fraxinella in the southern provinces, exhale in the warmest seasons a condensed air, which is so inflammable as to take fire if a light be approached to it, and the bush appears to be in a flame. The following list of a few of the plants, which have been transplanted from foreign climes into France, may not prove uninteresting. Most of these are now so naturalized to the soil, that they appear to be indigenous plants.

The potatoe, from.....	Peru.
The ranuncula	Syria.
The horse chestnut.....	Constantinople; originally from India
Tulip.....	Turkey, of which there are now 900 sorts in France.
Weeping willow	from the plains of Babylon
Acacia	Virginia.
The black ash	Canada.
The mangel of Péru	Mexico.
The heliotrope	The Cordilleras.
Mignonette	Egypt.
Pomegranate and Jerusalem) Artichoke	Brazil.
The gourd	America.
Solacca	Mexico.
Angelica	The mountains of Lapland.
The balsam	India.
Tuberose	Ceylon.
Aster	China.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY.

Rhubarb, from Tartary.
Buck wheat Greece, &c. &c. &c

—What skill, what force divine,
Deep felt in these appear! a simple train,
Yet, so delightful mix'd with such kind art,
Such beauty and beneficence combin'd;
Shade unperceiv'd so softening into shade,
And all so forming an harmonious whole;
That, as they still succeed they ravish still.

The ordinary vegetables, which, are too well known to need any comment, have not been enumerated.

The soil of France extends over a superficies of 52,000,000 *hectares*, a measure of about two acres and a half English measure; which will produce consequently about 130,000,000 acres.

23,000,000 of these *hectares* are converted into arable land.

5,600,000 are occupied by woods and forests

2,900,000 by vineyards.

100,000 by chestnut plantations.

60,000 by hop grounds.

43,000 by olive grounds.

And in the south of France, vast tracts are appropriated to the culture of the mulberry tree. Pleasure grounds, kitchen gardens, nursery grounds, osier grounds, bogs, marshes, &c. &c. &c., may be said to occupy the rest of the land.

CLIMATE.—In the north of France the climate resembles that of England, and rain falls abundantly at certain periods. In the interior, the weather is generally dry, and in the south, it is very hot, but subject occasionally to intense cold, from various local winds. That called *mistral* sometimes commits great depredations among the vineyards, orange-groves, &c: this wind is mentioned by Strabo, Pliny, and Seneca. It appears to descend from the snowy *Alpes*, and to be impelled by some unknown cause up the Rhone, where its impetuosity is so great, that it has been known to blow carriages passing along the banks of the river, into the middle of the stream. The waves of the Rhone rise and swell to a prodigious degree under its influence; its progress is generally at the rate of four leagues in the hour, and it blows either four, seven, or nine days successively, though it has been known to cease at the end of

wenty-four hours. In 1769 and 1770 it blew during fourteen months without ceasing. The trees in this part of France all lean in the direction of this wind.

In the neighbourhood of *Nîmes* the winds are numerous; they are divided into *bises* and *marins*: the *remontane* ranks among the former; it descends from the *Alpes*, and reverses every thing which opposes its progress; it not only commits these devastations, but it dries up the moisture to such a degree, that the earth cracks and gapes, and the expectations of the husbandmen vanish before its parching breath. At *Monpellier* there are two periodical winds, the one, called *Vaccarions*, blows impetuously at the equinoxes; the other, called *Cavaliers*, arrives some weeks later: they are generally regular in their appearance, though it does happen that they are sometimes replaced by heavy rains.

The labours of man have, in some instances, overcome those elements which brought destruction in their train; but his knowledge is limited, he feels the evil, but he is ignorant of the good; if, he sees, but in part. The wind called *Maguelone*, which blows at *Salon*, in *Provence*, comes from the sea, and used to bring with it genial rains: the marshes round the town have been dried, and the rains have ceased. The injudicious destruction of the forests of the *Jura*, and other mountains, is said by some learned men, likely to produce a serious evil; they apprehend that the rivers will in time change their bed, and that the winds of the north will strip these mountains of their vegetable earth.

There are also many meteoric deceptions in France. The plain of *Crau* is situated near the sea, and the pebbles which cover it give back the rays of the sun with such power, that the vapours which float over them act as a mirror, and produce the phenomenon called *mirage*; but this illusion disappears if the spectator quit the watery-looking plain, and ascend to a height above it, the vision then disappears, and he sees things as they really are. In 1800, an engineer, with his guide, was leaning against the cross, erected at the *puits de Sarcy*, in the *Monts d'Or*, and was admiring the vast and beautiful scene before him, when, upon casting his eyes downwards for a minute, he observed a little white cloud, which had formed itself at his feet, towards the north: in this cloud, his own person, and that of the

guide, with the cross, were perfectly reflected: the cloud was surrounded by a circle, exhibiting the vivid colours of the rainbow.

In those countries which are enriched by mineral treasures, light flames of different colours play over the surface of the ground: sometimes they appear as globes or fountains, and occasionally cover the ground with a lambent flame of different colours, according to the metals beneath; they are blue where lead is concealed, green over the copper mines of the Vorges, and white over the silver mine at Trimont, in the same chain; the most vivid flames, however, are those which hover over the mines of bitumen; these are red, and shoot up to a great height.

MOUNTAINS.—Next to the *Alpes*, the *Pyrenées* are the highest mountains in Europe: they appear to rise from the ocean at Cape Finisterre, in Spain, and running through Galicia, Asturias, and Biscay, after dividing France from Spain, they fall into the Mediterranean at Cape Creux, near to Fort Vendre. From the chain, which extends along the north of the peninsula; vast ramifications extend towards the south, bearing different names, until they join the Sierras* of Andalusia and Granada, beyond which rises the perpendicular and solitary rock of Gibraltar: opposite to this rock, on the African coast, stands Ceuta. The *Pyrenées*, which extend from the shore of the Mediterranean northward, and unite themselves with the mountains of *Vivarais* and *Cevennes*; these links connect themselves with the *Alpes*; and the Alpine mountains join themselves to other chains along the south of Europe, finally and progressively reaching the Caucasus, between the Black and Caspian Seas. On the side of France, the *Pyrenées* form the southern boundary to her five frontier departments:—viz. *Pyrenées Orientales*, *Ariège*, *Haute Garonne*, and *Hautes* and *Basses Pyrenées*. The slope of these mountains, on their northern declivities, is at an angle of thirty or forty degrees, which engineers call the angle of repose; but they present perpendicular fronts in some parts, and even masses of rock projecting beyond their base, forming broken arches: this happens where the rock is of a granitic or of a primary calcareous substance. On the

* The word *Sierra*, implies a chain of mountains, the peaks of which resemble the teeth of a saw.

side of Spain this phenomenon is more frequent than in France, where they extend further and more gradually into the plain country, although they sometimes ascend into peaks, the summits of which are covered with perpetual snows, and whose sides abound with glaciers. Among the fearful phenomena of the *Pyrenées*, are the *Avalanche* and the *Lavage*. The former consists of vast bodies of snow, which a light wind, or the fall of a small stone from a neighbouring peak, is sufficient to put in motion; then, headlong rolling, it uproots the rooted pines, and sends before it huge masses of loosened rock, the avant-couriers of the ruin which it finally produces in the valleys below. Yet, terrible as is the *avalanche*, the *lavage*, though less grand and imposing, is not less fearful and destructive in its effects: frequently, after a storm, some time-worn peak, some loosened rock is precipitated by the swollen torrents of the mountains into the plain below, carrying with it the remnants of the blasted pines, which erst grew on its summit, and

Filled the dark shade with a religious awe."

Then rolls on the muddy torrent, foaming and toiling, and hurrying beneath its dark, thick waters, the peaceful habitation of the cottager; and alike consigning to an untimely grave, the master and his mute dependents. Earthquakes too, have committed dreadful depredations in the regions of the *Pyrenées*. At the time of the fatal earthquake at Lisbon, tremendous changes took place at *Lourdes* and *Juncadas*. The *Pyrenées* evidently sympathise more or less with all the volcanic eruptions of Etna or Vesuvius, with the earthquakes of Sicily, &c. In 1750 a shower of stones descended into the valley below from the peak of *Itax* with such violence as to rebound to the opposite summit; a great lake, which was formed by the impeded torrent, was, in 1788, by another convulsion of nature, precipitated upon the plain of *Gédre*, with an uproar scarcely to be imagined. There appears to be no more powerful agent in producing all these violent commotions than water.

The summits of the *Pyrenées* produce the plants of Lapland and Siberia; in its eastern and southern valleys, the productions of Spain, Portugal, the coasts of Africa, and the Archipelago, mingle their varied and beautiful hues, with many others which are peculiar to these mountains.

Among the numerous plants and flowers which adorn the *Pyrenées*, may be enumerated twenty-nine species of veronica, forty-six saffruges, fifty-six euphorbias, thirty-seven species of ranunculas, twelve sorts of roses, twenty kinds of the silvery patenilles, twelve of narcissus, fifteen of violets, eighteen gentians, fifteen different species of flax, &c. And the tiger lilly, with its bright black spots on a deep yellow ground, is found in every part of the *Pyrenées*; in the valleys, in the woods, and on the mountains. In the spring, the cows eagerly search for the nard (*nardus stricta*); this plant increases the quantity of their milk, and gives to the cream a perfumed flavour, to which wild thyme, lemon thyme, and rosemary, add their aromatic qualities.

One of the peculiar features of the *Pyrenées*, is the mountain circuses, or amphitheatres, which surround their valleys, denominated by the inhabitants, *oules*.* That of *Gavarne* we shall describe, though the road to it is so romantic as to baffle the powers of language; the imagination must fill up the picture, and even then it will fall short of the reality.

Immense square masses of rocks, forty or fifty feet high, resting in confused heaps the one upon the other, supported by their own weight alone, threaten to overwhelm the traveller as he journeys through this romantic pass: the snowy summits of the *Maboré*, the *Brèche de Roland*, of *Neige Vierge*, *Vignemale*, rise before him, and seem to shut him out from the living world. The valley, or *Oule* of *Gavarne*, at length presents itself, surrounded by perpendicular, towering, and inaccessible rocks, among which the *Brèche de Roland*† is the most imposing and picturesque, with its natural arch and colossal gale, crowned by towers and battlements, whose summits are concealed by per-

* *Oule*, from the latin, *olla*, cauldron or kettle.

† The village of *Gavarne*, which is on the road to the *Brèche de Roland*, belonged, before the revolution, to the religious and military knights of the order of Malta: it had formerly belonged to the Templars. The minister's house is formed partly of some of the remaining walls of their receptory. Other melancholy vestiges are shown of their dwellings in the neighbourhood; and on a beam in the church, close to the pulpit, here are the skulls of twelve of the unfortunate knights who were beheaded on this spot when the cruel order was given for their complete extirpation.

petual snows. From these battlements rush twelve foaming torrents, which fall 1400 feet before they reach the circus of *Marboré*; these falls of the *Gave*, the most magnificent in the world, perhaps, as connected with the surrounding scenery, sometimes force their way through the perpetual snows, carrying with them the artificial bridge they have made; and then such a hurly-burly commences; then such noises, loud and ruinous follow, as appal the senses: rocks and trees bend before the mighty avalanche, and, amidst the confusion of nature's element, the *Gave*, which has caused the mischief, is occasionally seen like a floating piece of silver gauze, or like a transparent cloud, illumined by the moon's cold beams, smiling at the mischief it has made. Colour, too, adds its mystic charms to the wonderful scene; evanescent rainbows gleam, now here, now there; sometimes many at the same time; even crossing each other, as the sparkling foam of the falling *Gave* springs from the projecting rocks; producing the magic arch, explained by sage philosophers as rising from the "showery prism."

——— Not so the boy;

He wondering views the bright enchantment bend,
Delightful, o'er the radiant fields, and runs
To catch the falling glory: but amaz'd,
Beholds th' amusive arch before him fly,
Then vanish quite away!

As it thus increases in its descent, the *Gave* assumes a dark blue colour, until, having reached the "sweet valley" of *Baréges*, it wanders on, fertilizing, as it glides along, the meadows of *Bearne*, whence it peaceably pursues its course, as if rejoicing that it had surmounted and overcome all the impediments that had withheld its waters from so calm and smooth a channel.

The lake and cascade of *Seculejo*, situated in an elevated valley at the height of 6,559 feet above the level of the sea, is also an object worthy the traveller's notice, among the numerous romantic and sublime points of scenery to be found in the Pyrenees. The lake of *Seculejo* is of an oval form; its greatest length is from north to south; it is about a quarter of a league long. The water is perfectly clear and limpid; but, from its great depth, and the extreme smoothness of its surface, it resembles a dark mirror; it is encircled, except on one side, by perpendicular and barren rugged rocks. From this opening falls the cascade,

which, at two bounds, descends 800 feet; its first leap terminates upon a forked rock, from which it rebounds in clouds of foam and spray, assuming the appearance of many cascade, until the waters, reuniting, precipitate themselves in one mass into the gulf below; the calm silence of the lake, contrasts beautifully with the noise and turmoil of the cascade. Who could unmoved contemplate such a scene of grandeur!

Were every faltering tongue of man,
 ALMIGHTY FATHER! silent in thy praise,
 Thy works themselves would raise a general voice,
 Even in the depths of solitary woods
 By human foot untrod; proclaim thy power,
 And to the quire celestial THINE resound,
 Th' eternal cause, support, and end of all!

The Pyrenees are granitic at their base, but their peaks and sides are mingled with salient bands of crystal feldspar, rocks of the first and second formation, and metallic rocks.

According to the most recent observations, the following is the height of the principal mountains, and of the principal passes; or, as they are called, *Ports*.

MOUNTAINS.

<i>Mont-Perdu</i>	10,308	<i>Pit-du Miat de Bigorre</i> ..	8,918
<i>Vignemale</i>	10,068	<i>Moune</i>	8,700
<i>Cylindre</i>	9,996	<i>Pic d'Arbizon</i>	8,655
<i>Pic-Long</i>	9,753	<i>Canigou</i>	8,343
<i>Neguielle</i>	9,405	<i>Pic Montaigne</i>	7,188
<i>Pimegè</i>	9,000	<i>Pic de Bergon</i>	8,339

PASSES OR PORTS.

<i>Port d'Or</i>	9,006
<i>Port de Viel or Estaubé</i> ..	7,683
<i>Port de Pinède</i>	7,497
<i>Port de Gavaine</i>	6,999
<i>Port de Cavarère</i>	6,723
<i>Port de Tourmalet, (interier)</i>	6,531

INHAUNTABLE HEIGHTS.

<i>Village of Héas</i>	4,395
— of Gavarnie	4,332
— of Barrège	3,807
Lowest region of perpetual snows, as the level of the sea ..	7,500

The several chains of mountains which traverse France, on bound it, present some singular distinctions and characters peculiar to each of them: thus, for instance, the *Alpes* rise like

obelisks, the *Pyrenées* like pyramids, and the *Vosges* are round on their summits, which are hence called *ballons*. The *Jura*, on the west, rises almost perpendicularly, in peaks, for the distance of a hundred leagues; on its opposite side, the descent is comparatively gentle. The highest points of the *Pyrenées* and the *Vosges* are not in the middle, but on the lateral chains of these mountains. The valleys that lie between them bear also a distinct character: those of the *Pyrenées* are generally and nearly circular, and almost always level: those of the *Vosges* are, for the most part, oblique, relatively to the direction of the mountain; while those of the *Jura* are prolonged, and follow the course of the rocks that bound them. The valleys of the *Alpes* are sometimes elongated, sometimes transverse to the mountains. The *Alpes* extend from *Antibes* to *Jesançon*, where they turn eastward, forming the southern boundary of Switzerland.

The *Jura* runs parallel with the *Alpes*, extending farther north.

The *Alpes* will be described hereafter.

The *Vosges* separate *Alsace* and *Franche Comté* from *Lorraine*; they are covered with forests. The *Cevennes* seem to branch from the *Pyrenées*; and running northward, they pass through *Herauld*, *Gard*, *Ardeche*, and *Lyonnois*: a chain of these mountains extend into *Auvergne*.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of France, are the Seine, the Loire, the Rhone, the Garonne, the Rhine, Saone, Maine, &c.

The *Seine* rises in the department of the *Côte d'Or*, near to *Chanceaux*; it passes *Troyes*, *Melun*, *Paris*, *Rouen*, and falls into *La Manche*, at *Quillebeuf*. The course of this river is particularly interesting from *Rouen* to the channel. The high mount of *Saint Catherine* rises on the east in the distance, while both sides of the river are bordered by beautiful hills. It was in a tower at *Rouen* that prince Arthur was confined by his uncle John, where

'Mong hilles and woodelandes, manye a myle
Seine roll'd his murmur'ing-floode:

And winding, wash'd the statelie tow'ers,
Where Rouen's faire castle stodee, &c.

On the right bank, opposite, is the forest of *Roumare*, where *Rollo* used to suspend bracelets of gold, which remained untouched, so severe, or so just was he in punishing offenders. At

Old ballads, historical and narrative, in a collection by Mr. Evans.

Bouille, there is a grotto of an oval form, ornamented by many fantastic columns of mimic crystal. The banks of the *Seine*, beyond this, are for a short space covered with a thick forest. At *Jumieges* are the venerable remains of an abbey built by *Guillaume le Danois*, son of *Rollo*; it is of Saxon architecture, and hitherto has defied the scythe of time. It was here that *Charlentagne* compelled *Tasillon*, duke of Bavaria, and his son, to take monastic vows: it was here that the bodies of the two sons of *Clovis II.* were buried, after they had been cruelly slain by the orders of their father, for the crimes of rebellion; and it was here the beautiful *Agnes Sorel* died in the arms of her royal lover *Charles V.* Opposite to this monastery extends the forest of *Bretonne*. But here we must limit our legends. At *Villequier*, the *Seine* begins to expand; and, at this place, the difficulty of the navigation commences. It is a singular fact, that, when the waters are exceedingly low at the pass of *Azières*, the dreaded rock of *Quielleboeuf* is almost covered, and vice versa. The sands of this river are ever moving, and yet the pilots accustomed to the navigation can, by seeing one of these passes, judge of the others. The rock of *Quielleboeuf* rises in the bed of the stream, near the mouth of the river. The *Seine* exhibits one of those phenomena called a *barr*. It resembles a prolonged wave, supported by its own power, on the surface of the water, and over which it passes with incredible swiftness, following generally the sinuosities of the coast, but sometimes spreading across the stream; and, when it reaches the pass of *Quielleboeuf*, it forms and frets, as it rushes along each side of the rock, and pursues its tumultuous course up the river, as far as *Jumieges*, and sometimes even, it reaches *Rouen*. Its violence disturbs the sands, and hence arises much of the difficulty of navigating the *Seine*. Indeed, the mouth, the entrance, and the hidden rocks and banks of sand along this part of the coast of France, are natural defences against the intrusion of strangers, who would pay dearly for attempting to enter this river without a native pilot.

Its tributary streams are the *Aube*, *Marne*, *Oise*, on the northern bank; and the *Gonne*, *Essonne*, and the *Blaise*, on the southern bank. The *Seine* traverses the departments of the *Côte d'Or*, *Aube*, *Seine et Marne*, *Seine et Oise*, and *Seine*, dividing the *Seine Inférieure* from *l'Eure*.

The *LOIRE* rises in *Mont Gerbier de Joux* 6000 feet above the

ocean. In descending the mountains of the *Ardèche*, it flows from north to south, until it reaches *Uzès*, where it suddenly turns, and preserves a northern direction until it reaches *Orléans*. The first town it passes of any importance is *Rodanie*, the ancient *Rodamna* of Ptolemy, where Jaques Coeur, who will be mentioned hereafter, had an estate: it is at present the entrepôt for the merchandises of the south, which pass by the canal of *Briare* to *Paris*. The *Loire* then reaches *Nevers*, *la Charité*, a little town, beautifully situated at the foot of a hill covered with vines. *Orléans*, formerly *Genabum* *Aurelianum*, is the next place of consequence we meet with, and here the river changes its course, and flows from east to west. The banks of the *Loire* now become a subject of intense interest, from the number of historic events which have taken place in their vicinity. At *Blois*, the old castle still remains, in which Louis XII. was born, where Henry of Guise was assassinated, and where the empress *Marie Louise* retired, when Paris was besieged in 1814. *Amboise* then follows. The gothic cathedral of *Tours*, with its richly painted windows, shews in the distance, — *Saumur*, with its castle, and its habitations of chalk, dug in the sides of the hills, capable of containing 12,000 or 15,000 vine-dressers and their families; *Angers*, *Nantes*, the scene of so much good, of so much evil, and *Painebœuf*: all these towns are familiar to those who have read the history of France. The *Loire* falls into the ocean, between *Saint Nazaire*, *Saint-Brevin*, and the fort *Minden*, where its mouth is two leagues wide.

The right bank of the *LOIRE* does not receive the waters of many important streams; the *ANOUX*, the *NIVRE*, and the *MAYENNE*, are among the number; the *Saône* and the *Loire* fall into the latter. The left bank is joined by many rivers of considerable magnitude; among these, are the *Allier*, which rises in the forest of *Mercoire*, upon the mountain of *Lozère*; the *Cher*, which takes its source near *Merinthal*, in the département of *La Creuse*; the *Arnon*, which rises in the commune of *Saint Marien*, in the département of *La Creuse*; the *Indre*, which springs from the fountain of *Indre*, between *Lavaillandière* and the woods of *Chaumont*; the *Vienne* rises in the communes of *Corrèze* and *Gentoux*, in the département of *La Creuse*; the *Creuse* falls into the *Vienne*, three miles north-west of *La Haye*, and is thus united to the *Loire*.

The *Loire* is not navigable until it reaches *Lanvoirie*; but from

this point, to *Roanne*, it only carries boats down the stream. At *Roanne*, all the merchandise from *Lyon*, *Languedoc*, *Dauphiny*, and *Provence*, are put on board barges; and although, from the shifting of the sands, shallows, and other causes, the navigation is sometimes impeded, it is a noble river 170 leagues in length.

The *Garonne* rises in the *Val-d'Aran*, in Catalonia, and after traversing the most romantic country, among rocks and mountains, it reaches the plains of Languedoc; and proceeding in a north-west direction, it falls into the *Gironde*, below *Bordeaux*, after having been joined by the *Dordogne* at *Bec-d'Amberz*. It is navigable from *Muret*, a town in the department of *Haute-Garonne*; from thence it proceeds to *Toulouse*, where it is joined by the *Canal du Midi*: it then traverses a small portion of the department of the *Lot*, the *Lot et Garonne*, and assuming the name of *Gironde* at *Bordeaux*, it falls into the Bay of *Biscay*, between the departments of *Saintonge*, north, and *Gironde*, south. The tide ascends the stream thirty leagues. This river exhibits the same phenomena as does the *Seine* at its mouth, but it is here called *Mascaret*, or *Raf d'Eau*; the wave rolls with great velocity along every winding of the coast, and ascends as far as *Genissac*; it is by no means so violent as it was formerly, but even now the watch-word is given along the banks, as it rolls on its course, for it is sufficiently strong to upset a boat if unprepared for its encounter. The ducks and aquatic birds betake themselves to the shore, and the boatmen turn the boats with the prow towards this enemy. The tributary streams of the *Garonne*, are the *Dordogne*, the *Lot*, the *Aveyron*, and the *Ariège*.

The *Rhone* has its source in a glacier at the foot of Mount *Furca*, only five miles from the source of the *Rhine*: after traversing an extensive valley of *Vivaraïs*, it falls into the Lake of Geneva, opposite *Villeneuve*; and its rapid and turbid waters, having passed visibly through the lake, quit it at Geneva, pure and limpid: after having watered the beautiful gardens below this city, the torrent of the *Arve*, descending the *Alpes* in the vicinity of *Montblanc*, rolls its impetuous and muddy stream into the *Rhone*, which, as if to avoid contamination from its neighbour, keeps its clear blue course for a considerable distance along the northern bank, while the grey *Arve* rolls along beside it on the south. Between Mount *Vouache* and the *Jura*, the banks of

the *Rhone* contract much, and are bounded with steep precipitous rocks; in one place, the two opposite sides form sections of an arch, which the inhabitants united by a rustic bridge; but during the last war, this bridge was destroyed: the course of the *Rhone* from this point is violent, and its rapidity being interrupted by huge blocks of rock, over which it rolls in foaming cascades, it reaches, at length, what is called the *agrels*, and totally disappears: during the space of sixty paces, enormous masses of rock, forming a natural arch, conceal it from the eye. When the *Rhone* issues from the Lake of Geneva, it is 220 feet wide: when it emerges from its hiding place beneath the rocks, it is but forty-eight feet in breadth; but so deep is its channel, that the waters flow calmly through the rocks, which still continue to approach each other, until, at the mill of *Mussel*, the river is only fifteen feet broad! When the waters of the *Rhone* are occasionally swollen by the *Arve* to an unusual height, they flow above and below the natural arch under which, at other times, it disappears. The river forms the boundary between France and Savoy, until approaching *Chambery*, it directs its course north-west towards *Lyon*, at which place it meets the *Saône*, from whence it flows due south, and falls into the Mediterranean, after a course of 500 miles: its navigation is difficult, and its mouths are continually changing their bed; a lighthouse, erected in 1737, on the shore, is now three miles distant from it. Its tributary streams are on the west, the *Isère*, the *Drome*, and the *Durance*: on the east, the *Cance* and the *Gordon*.

The *Saône* rises in the mountains of the *Vosges* near *Dorney*: and after traversing the departments of the *Vosges*, *Haute Saône*, *Côte-d'Or*, *Saône et Loire*, it enters the *Lyonnais*, and joins the *Rhone* at *Lyon*.

The *Rhine*.—This river rises in the highest part of Switzerland; it is composed of several branches, which flow from *Mont St. Gothard*: it separates Germany from France, and directing its course north until it enters the kingdom of Belgium, when it turns to the west, and falls into the German Ocean. The scenery from *Mentz* to *Cologne*, on the banks of this river, is unequalled.

MARBLER.—Marbles, properly speaking, are calcareous carbonates, the close texture of which is capable of receiving a brilliant polish. Their principal and distinct character consists

in their effervescing with acids, and in their incapability of producing any spark under the shock of iron. The principal marbles of France are:—the marble of the *Pyrenées*, which, under this denomination, includes the white marble of Bayonne, made use of by the ancients; the *Campan*, one of the most extended in commerce,—the ground of it is white and dark red, marked by green ramifications (it is used only for the interior of edifices, for if exposed to the air it perishes); the ground of the marble of *Veyrette*, is white and scarlet; and the grey marble, which is frequently found near *Burèges*, is much intermixed with shells; one single valley in these mountains contains sixty different kinds of marble.

The marble of *Chateau-Landon* is of a yellowish grey: the canopies in churches are frequently made of it. The pedestals placed at the extremities of the bridge of Jena are composed of this marble. The *Portor*,—many columns at Versailles are composed of this marble.

The marble called *Languedoc*, is red, ornamented with white and grey zones: the columns of the triumphal arch of the *Carrousel*, are composed of *Languedoc* marble.

La Griotte is of a dark red, adorned with black spiral lines, the centre of which is sometimes white.

The marbles of *Sainte Beanne*, found in the department of *Var*, are celebrated for their variety of colours.

The *Brocatelle* of Moulins, or shell marble, is of a blue grey, veined with brown and yellow: the pavement of Notre Dame is a mixture of *Brocatelle*, and of the white marble found in the *Bourbonnais*.

The *Serpentine* appears to form a bank fifty leagues long in the mountains of the *Cevennes*.

The porphyry of the *Vosges* is grey, brown, violet, or iron grey. The *Pyrenées* and the *Alpes* contain green porphyry.

The granite of the *Vosges* is black; grey, in the departments of *Finisterre*, *Isere*, and the *Vosges*; green, in *Isere*; red, in departments of the *Vosges*, *Rhone*, *Saône et Loire*, and *Hautes Alpes*. Some of the granite of *Burgogne* and *Vosges* is marked with dark angular lines, resembling Hebrew characters.

The pink granite of *Auvergne* is considered the finest in the world. Trapp abounds in *Provence* and *Dauphiné*.

ALABASTER.—Several grottoes, in the Pyrenées and the Alpes, furnish very fine specimens of alabaster, which is more rare and uncommon than marble. . .

The pebbles of France present every variety of the Scotch and Egyptian pebble, and beautiful crystals, various kinds of quartz of all the colours of the rainbow. In Brittany alone is found the *muscle*, a stone of a quadrangular prism, semi-transparent, white, like the mother-of-pearl shell; some of the crystals are little inferior to the diamond. On the banks of the *Loire*, nine leagues from *Orleans*, there are quarries filled with that stone called *dendrites Orléanaise*; when broken, they present beautiful landscape designs, in brown and black upon a yellow ground: every time the stone is broken, a new landscape presents itself. But it would be an endless task to attempt to particularize the varieties of stones found in the quarries of France.

The sands of France are not without their curious qualities. That of *Greve-de-St.-Quay*, three leagues from *Saint Brieux*, is as shining and as heavy as steel filings, and it is attracted by the loadstone. The sands of *Oreil*, *Nevers*, and *Etampes*, are used in the manufacture of glass at *Saint-Gobin*. And at *Fontenay-aux-Roses*, the metal founders are amply supplied with the sand of which they make their moulds.

Quarries of slate abound in many parts; and coal mines, to the number of 400, are wrought; but the number of these, it is supposed, might be increased one-third. Jet is much in request, and is by no means scarce. The potters' earth, and that invaluable article, the *kaolin*, or clay of which the finest china is composed, is found abundantly in *Limoges*, and in other parts of France. Pipe-clay, brick-earth, mill-stones, &c. &c., constitute a part of the treasures which bountiful nature has bestowed upon this fair country.

MINERALS.—Many of the rivers of France contain small grains of gold; among these are, the *Arège*, the *Cèze*, the *Rhone*, the *Herault*, the *Rhone*, the *Garonne*, and the *Garonne*. The mountains of *Dauphiné* are supposed to contain gold. Lead is the most abundant metal in France, and the mines produce generally from thirteen to sixteen ounces of silver, in every quintal (cwt.) of lead; the lead in the *Vivarais* is found on the surface, very near it, pure, and in small round stones or peb-

bles, the coat of which resembles ceruse, or white lead; they are found from the size of a pea to that of a horse chestnut; the steep ravines which produce this lead extend eight leagues in length, by *Serre Mejanès, Argensière, and Aubenas.*

The copper mines of the *Upper Alpes, Lower Pyrenées, Lower Rhin, and the Rhone,* are the most productive. Iron is more generally diffused, but it is of an inferior quality; much of this useful article is imported from Sweden, which produces the best in Europe, and much from England, which is also considered excellent. The mines of antimony at *Romaneche,* in the department of *Saône et Loire,* are exceedingly rich. Zinc, cobalt, bismuth, amber, &c., are also found in many parts; but no tin mine has yet been discovered in this extensive country.

MINERAL SPRINGS are abundant, they will be particularized in the departments in which they are found.

ANIMALS.—These consist in cows, black cattle, sheep, the cream coloured cattle of *Limoges,* asses of a fine breed in *Provence,* bears, wolves, chamois, horses, cats, dogs, particularly a very small race, which are much valued by the French ladies, hares, foxes, &c.

BIRDS.—Every domestic fowl abounds in France: among the birds of prey are the eagle, the falcon, hawk, &c. The black swan, the whistler, the flamand, of a pale rosy colour, with scarlet wings, tipped with black; the green plover, gold plover, the wild swan, pheasants, partridges, peacocks, &c. &c.

REPTILES.—Among the most noxious are the scorpion, the black lizard, the blue, black, white, and green adder.

FISH.—The coasts of France abound with fish, and the rivers and lakes, or ponds, produce carp, tench, trout, eels, and all those fish common to fresh water. Among, however, those, the *ablette* or *blay* must be more particularly mentioned; it is found in the *Rhin, Saône, Loire, and the Seine.* Of the scale of this little fish an essence is composed, called *essence d'orient*; 18,000 *ablettes* scarcely produce a pound of this essence; it is used as a

• These dogs have supplanted an animal now wholly unknown to the farm yard. In the reign of Louis XIV., a lady of the court, who had been staying at Bayonne, astonished the Parisians on her return to the capital, by affirming, that she had seen several Bayonne ladies enter a ball-room with little pigs under their arms, which they fondly caressed as dear, sweet, beautiful, interesting little darlings.—*Chacun son gout.*

coating to false pearls. A man named *Jaquin* discovered the secret, and his heirs for many years enjoyed the monopoly in the street *Rue Petit Lion*, at Paris.

The butterflies in the south of France are exceedingly brilliant, and along the shores of the Mediterranean, shining and beautiful insects, fan their many coloured wings, and sparkling in the sunny beams, fall little short of the gayest tribes of India.

Many of the ponds of France abound with leeches; yet, although the amount caught annually is about the round number of 20,000,000, these are insufficient for the supply demanded, so greatly are they employed as remedies in inflammatory complaints. In 1830, about 35,000,000 of leeches were imported into France from foreign countries. Each leech costs the consumer ten centimes; so that 5,500,000 francs, or £22,916, are yearly expended in the consumption of these little animals.

SECTION II.

THE POLITICAL DIVISIONS OF FRANCE, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

THE Gauls, the ancient inhabitants of the country now called France, were the descendants of Gomer, the eldest son of Japhet; they were known in ancient history by the names of Gomerians, Galatians, Saques or Sacæ, Titans, Celtæ, and finally by that of Gauls. The words Celtæ and Gaul possess the same signification, *i. e.* powerful, valiant, or valourous. "It is a singular fact," says the celebrated M. Paul Pezron, "that the language of the Titans, which was that of the ancient Gauls, is, after a revolution of above four thousand years, preserved in our time.* A singular fact, that so ancient a language should now be spoken by the Armorican Bretons in France, and by the ancient Britons in Wales; for these are the people who have the honour of preserving the language of the posterity of Gomer, Japhet's

* M. Pezron published his celebrated work on the Antiquities of Nations in the year 1703; to which very ingenious work the reader is referred for many curious particulars relating to the descendants of Japhet, particularly Gomer.

eldest son, and the nephew of Shem, and the language of those princes, called Saturn and Jupiter, who passed for great deities among the ancients." Cæsar touches lightly on the origin of the Gauls; he merely says, that, according to the tradition of the Druids, they were descended from Pluto, "that they had assumed the name of Celtic, and that the Romans named them Gauls."

Whatever may have been the origin of the Gauls, they have been ever known as a brave and warlike people. In the reign of Tarquin the elder, king of Rome, 590 years before the birth of Christ, Bellovesus and Sigovesus, sons of Ambigatus, left their native country, with a numerous horde of Gauls, in order to seek new territories for the overgrown population of their country, which, little cultivated, (for the Gauls were in general too warlike to pursue the arts of agriculture,) failed at different periods to be sufficient for their support. Then war, and rapine, and conquest became the resources of these hardy people, and at the period in question, (590 B. C.) Bellovesus, charmed with the accounts he had heard of the fertility of Italy, crossed the Alps, with a disorderly but brave army, who took possession of the north of Italy, giving it the name of Gallia Cisalpina. His brother Sigovesus directed his steps eastward, traversed Germany, and settled on the Danube, in Hungary, extending his ravages into Greece. The descendants of these Gauls proved one of the bitterest enemies of the Roman empire in after times.

About 200 years after the settlement of Bellovesus in the north of Italy, Brennus led his victorious troops even to Rome itself.

The subjugation of the Gauls occupied Cæsar and his legions about ten years; and even during the time of Augustus Cæsar, Gaul contained no less than sixty great divisions of people and territory, which among them, were called cities or societies.

Julius Cæsar divided Gaul into four great provinces: viz.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| GALLIA BELGICA ... | } Containing the provinces afterwards called Alsace, Lorraine, Picardie, Champagne, Isle-de-France, and part of the Low Countries. |
| GALLIA NARBONENSIS | |
| | { Containing Lanfuedoc, Provence, Dauphiné, and Savoie. |

GALLIA AQUITANIA. { Containing *Poitou, Gacagne, Auvergne,*
Saintonge, Gyiennne, Bérri, Limousin, &c.

GALLIA CELTICA, or { Containing *Lyonnois, Touraine, Franche-*
 LUGDUNENSIS { *Comté, Senonais, part of Normandie*
and Switzerland.

The Romans retained the undisturbed possession of this country for the period of 200 years, when Gaul was assailed by some of those numerous nations, which finally drove the Romans, not only from their conquests, but from Rome itself.

The most formidable of these, as relates to Gaul, were the Franks, who eventually became masters of the beautiful country now called France, to which they gave its present name. The Franks were a brave and hardy people, who elected a chief, the most gallant of their countrymen, to conduct them to conquest, each clan, however, continuing under its own particular leader; these leaders received lands as the just reward of their valour; but as it became necessary, for the general good, and for the preservation of all, that each should give his assistance in cases of common danger, those upon whom lands were bestowed were bound to assist the chief, to whom all looked for protection, either by his personal services in the field, or by sending a portion of those individuals who depended upon him, to share the dangers and perform those services to which they had bound themselves, when their particular leaders granted them portions of those lands, which the chief had bestowed upon those under whose banners the conquests had been made. To be more clear upon this subject,—

- c The chief bestowed lands upon the commanders under him;
- The commanders again divided these lands among their followers;

The chief exacted certain services from the commanders, and—

- The commanders claimed from their followers certain services likewise, generally of a military character, though, in after times, when the feudal system became more organized, these services sometimes wore a more peaceable character, such, for instance, as furnishing some particular dish, or so many hawks, the entertainment during so many days of the chief or king, &c. &c.

Hence it was that, in the course of time, France, as well as the other countries of Europe, was divided into so many inde-

pendent principalities, comtés, or dutchés; for as these nobles grew strong, they shook off their allegiance to their chief, or king, against whom they frequently made war: in process of time they claimed the privilege of life and death over their followers, whom distress or the lawless spirit of the times had compelled to attach themselves to some powerful leader, for protection against the tyranny of some other powerful leader. The tillers of the ground were glad at any rate to secure their lives, not only engaging to do certain services, but eventually they gave up their rights as free men, and became slaves: hence society was divided into four classes; the *nobles*, the *slaves*, the *villains*, and the *free men*.

The *nobles* were, as we have seen, originally generals or commanders of small bands under one chief; as their power increased, their demands increased likewise, as we have already shown. They coined money, claimed total independence, with the privilege, which they also exercised, of making war the one upon the other; of life and death over their slaves; and of conferring upon their heirs all those rights and privileges which they enjoyed, and even made their dignities hereditary.

The *slaves* were those unhappy persons who were taken prisoners in war, and their families inherited this bitter portion of slavery, aggravated by their being entirely at the will, even of life and death, and worse, the use of the *torture*, by their unfeeling masters.

The *villains* were that class of men, who were tenants of these haughty nobles; they paid a certain rent, and they enjoyed the product of their labours without molestation; unless, as it frequently happened, some neighbouring lord, at enmity with the landlord of the *villain*, invaded his farm, and carried him off captive with his family, in order to be revenged of the noble who had offended him. Hence it sometimes arose, that the *villain* would sell himself, in order to claim the protection of his lord, who, interested in the security of his slave, would perhaps feel himself little interested in the life or fate of the *villain*.*

The *free men* were those who possessed landed property, and had a right to bequeath it to their relations; they were per-

* Perhaps this barter of liberty for safety has given rise to the present ignominious meaning attached to the word *villain*.

mitted to carry arms, and had besides the privilege of bearing armorial distinctions; hence they may be said to constitute the *gentry*—the **PEOPLE**—of those days. Some of them rented farms, and those persons were occasionally called upon to do some sort of service for their landlords, such as ploughing, reaping, &c. &c.

The first great shock to this feudal power was given by the towns and cities, which, as they increased in wealth and importance, gradually compelled the lords and barons, who exercised feudal authority over them, to give up their rights, and, among these, the Italian cities set the example. These particulars are necessary, because, until the period of the French revolution, no country retained more of the oppressive rights and customs of this feudal system than France; but they were all swept away by the revolution of 1793 and following years; not a trace of them remains in France, except in the historic page.

But the actors in the revolution of 1793 and subsequent years, were not content to ameliorate the condition of the people; they were not content to remove the dangerous parts of the fabric of their ancient constitution, or ponder upon the more expedient means of removing those parts that were unsuitable to the genius of the age, who had brought forward liberty, and placed her before the eyes of the people. No: they commenced their operations by striking at the foundation of that edifice which they had been accustomed to look up to with veneration; and the long cherished institutions of their ancestors, defaced and disfigured as they certainly were, by many monstrous deformities, instead of being judiciously removed, and replaced by others of more simplicity, and of a purer nature, or such repairs effected as would have rendered them beautiful to the mind's eye, and salutary to the community at large, were at one blow levelled with the dust. From these ruins arose lawless licence and libertinism, accompanied by their usual gorgon attendants, irreligion and cruelty. Liberty, appalled, fled affrighted, and despotism reigned triumphant in her place for a season, until weeping humanity sought again for religion and liberty, and brought them, trembling indeed, from their hiding-place. Order followed close upon their steps, yet, ever and anon, misrule darted forth, and upset the fabric of civil order which the virtues of the land were endeavouring to raise. At length, however, assisted by patience and perseverance, they contrived to erect a *constitution*, by which

every individual of France is protected by the same laws, and is permitted to worship his Maker after the forms of his own particular faith. With all these advantages, the government of France may be pronounced as much a military as a judicial government, it being divided into as many sub-military governments as there are departments. When the French government put up the ancient provinces into departments, it seems to have avoided as much as possible an the ancient lines of geographical division; for the departments are so intermingled and interwoven that, although there are many that can be properly said to be wholly formed of portions of such and such provinces, yet there are others which can only be assigned to a particular province, because its larger proportion can there be found. The following table will therefore be considered as giving the generally accepted division. In the description of each department, its actual and true composition, if that expression may be used, will be detailed. The annexed historical description will point out at the same time the progressive aggrandisement of the French monarchy during the reign of the third or Capetian race of the kings of France, whose limited possessions, surrounded by those of haughty and aspiring independent princes, made them, in fact, but nominal superiors, who, instead of commanding the services of their nobles and vassals, for such they professed to be, were frequently compelled to submit to dictation from their pretended subjects; their limited power was unequal to protect their poorer subjects, the people, from oppression, or to carry into effect any act of legislation for the amelioration of their sufferings. In process of time, however, the monarchs of France became, in their turns, masters, and the former high spirited independent nobility of France trembled at the frown, or basked in the sun-shine of royal smiles and favours. Their present state will be described in its proper place.

TABLE OF THE HISTORICAL AND MODERN DIVISION OF FRANCE.

Antient Provinces.	Capitals.	History.	Departments.	Populat.	Chief Towns.
FLANDRE FRANÇAISE.	Lille	{ By conquest from the Austrians, under Louis XIV., in 1667.	DU NORD	889,839	Lille.
ARTOIS & BOULONNAIS.	Arras	{ Artois, an ancient province of the Pays Bas, united to France in 1610. <i>Le Boulonois</i> , and a part of the country in its neighbourhood, reconquered by Louis XI. formed a portion of <i>Picardie</i> .	PAS DE CALAIS	580,437	Arras.
PICARDIE.	Amiens	{ Constituent part of the kingdom of France, which has never been alienated, and in one period it was the only domain of the crown. Alienated from France by <i>Charles-le-Simple</i> , who was compelled to relinquish it, in 911, to the Normans. It was reunited to France in 1204, under the reign of <i>Philippe Auguste</i> .	SOMME	195,058	Amiens.
NORMANDIE	Rouen	{	SEINE INFÉRIEURE EURE CALVADOS ORNE MANCHE	642,948 421,580 305,420 425,920 583,429	Rouen. Evreux. Caen. Alençon. Saint-Lô.
ILE DE FRANCE	Paris	{ United to the domain of the crown upon the accession of <i>Hughes-Capet</i> to the throne.	SEINE OISE AISNE SEINE ET OISE SEINE ET MARNE	780,000 383,500 442,989 439,972 304,063	Paris. Beauvais. Laon. Versailles. Meaux.

Ancient Provinces.	Capitals.	History.	Departments.	Population.	Chief Towns.
CHAMPAGNE	Troyes	<p>United to the kingdom by the marriage of <i>Jeanne de Navarre</i> with <i>Philippe-le-Bel</i> in 1284.</p> <p>The part of <i>Lorraine</i> called <i>le pays d'Éparges</i>, <i>Nice</i>, <i>Toul</i>, and <i>Verdun</i>, was placed under the protection of France so early as 1552, in the reign of Henry II. In 1648 the treaty of Munster confirmed their possession to Louis XIV.; and in 1766, the death of Stanislaus Leszcynski, duke of Lorraine and king of Poland, annexed the remainder of this fine province to the French monarchy, he having married the daughter of Louis XV., king of France.</p>	ARDENNES	275,792	Mezières.
			MARNE	311,037	Châlons.
			AUBE	238,849	Troyes.
			HAUTE MARNE	237,585	Chaumont.
LORRAINE	Nancy	<p>The part of <i>Lorraine</i> called <i>le pays d'Éparges</i>, <i>Nice</i>, <i>Toul</i>, and <i>Verdun</i>, was placed under the protection of France so early as 1552, in the reign of Henry II. In 1648 the treaty of Munster confirmed their possession to Louis XIV.; and in 1766, the death of Stanislaus Leszcynski, duke of Lorraine and king of Poland, annexed the remainder of this fine province to the French monarchy, he having married the daughter of Louis XV., king of France.</p>	METSE	394,703	Bar-le-Duc.
			MOSELLE	365,559	Metz.
			MEURTHE	365,810	Nancy.
			VOSGES	334,169	Épinal.
ALSACE	Strasbourg	<p>Yielded to France, by Austria, in the reign of Louis XIV. A. D. 1648.</p> <p>United to France in 1491, by the marriage of Charles VIII. with <i>Anne de Bretagne</i>, daughter of the last king of France.</p> <p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, A. D. 1481.</p> <p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, in 1431.</p>	BAS RHIN	391,645	Strasbourg.
			HAUT RHIN	398,677	Colmar.
			FINISTERRE	452,895	Quimper.
			CÔTES DU MORP	519,620	Briey.
BRÉTAGNE	Rennes	<p>United to France in 1491, by the marriage of Charles VIII. with <i>Anne de Bretagne</i>, daughter of the last king of France.</p> <p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, A. D. 1481.</p> <p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, in 1431.</p>	MORBHAN	405,423	Vannes.
			ISLE ET VILAINF	508,544	Renne.
			LOIRE INFÉRIEURE	407,900	Nantes.
			MAINE	332,250	Laval.
MAINE	Le Mans	<p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, A. D. 1481.</p> <p>By inheritance in the reign of Louis XI, in 1431.</p>	SARTHE	410,380	Le Mans.
			MAINE ET LOIRE	403,501	Angers.
ANJOU	Anger				

TABLE OF THE HISTORICAL AND MODERN DIVISION OF FRANCE, continued.

Provinces.	Capitals.	History.	Departments.	Populat.	Chief Towns.
Normandie	Caen	{ By conquest from the English in 1374, by Charles V. }	VANDÉE	268,786	Borbon Vandeé.
Normandie	Caen		DEUX SÈVRES	234,105	Niort.
Normandie	Caen		VIENNE	258,048	Poitiers.
Normandie	Caen		CHARENTE INFÉRIEURE	393,011	La Rochelle.
Normandie	Caen		CHARENTE	326,885	Angoulême.
Normandie	Caen	{ By confiscation from John of England, who had refused to answer the summons of Philippe II. to appear as his vassal. }	INDRE ET LOIRE	275,232	Tours.
Normandie	Caen		LOIRE ET LOIR	21,996	Chartre.
Normandie	Caen		LOIRE ET CHER	285,522	Blois.
Normandie	Caen		LOIRET	286,133	Orléans.
Normandie	Caen		INDRE	204,721	Chatean.
Normandie	Caen		CHER	228,152	Bourges.
Normandie	Caen	{ By the treaty of Brétigny, Limousin was relinquished by Jean-le-Bon to Edward III. of England. In the reign of Charles V. it was restored to France by the conquests of Du Guesclin. }	HAUTE VIEUNNE	213,195	Limoges.
Normandie	Caen		CORRÈZE	354,271	Tulle.
Normandie	Caen	{ Confiscated in 1331 to the crown, by the revolt of the Connétable de Bourbon. }	ALLIER	260,266	Moulins.
Normandie	Caen		PAY-DE-DOME	584,834	Clermont.
Normandie	Caen		CANTAL	251,436	Aurillac.

Ancient Provinces.	Capitals.	History.	Departments.	Popul.	Chief Towns.
BOURGOGNE	Dijon	Upon the death of its last duke, <i>Charles-le-Téméraire</i> , it was united to the crown by Louis XI., A. D. 1477.	YONNE	325,994	Auxerre.
			CÔTE-D'OR	355,436	Dijon.
			SÂONE ET LOIRE	471,457	Macron.
			AIN	304,468	Beug.
FRANCAIE COMTÉ	Besançon	Twice conquered by Louis XIV. This province was united peacefully to France by the treaty of <i>Nimègue</i> .	HAUTE SÂONE	300,156	Vésoul.
			DOUTS	240,733	Besançon.
			JURA	292,812	Lons-le-Saulnier.
LYONNOIS	Lyons	Seized by <i>Philippe-le-Bel</i> , from <i>Pierre-de-Savoie</i> , who had refused the oath of fealty.	LOIRE	315,858	Mont Beison.
			RHÔNE	347,381	Lyons.
			(GIRONDE)	514,562	Bordeaux.
			LANDES	275,560	Marçay.
			DORDOGNE	42,413	Périgueux.
GUENNE & GASCOGNE	Bordeaux	United to France by Charles the VIIIth, in 1493, who conquered it from the English.	LOT ET GARONNE	206,150	Agen.
			GERS	24,493	Auch.
			HAUTES PYRÉNÉES	198,763	Tharbes.
			LOT	268,170	Cahors.
			TARN ET GARONNE	288,722	Montauban.
			AVEYRON	331,373	Rodez.
BÉARN	Pau	By inheritance, upon the accession of Henry IV. to the throne of France.	BASSES PYRÉNÉES	336,502	Pau.
COMTÉ DE FOIX	Foix	Ditto.	ARRIÈGE	222,936	Foix.
ROUSSILLON	Perpignan	Taken from Spain in 1641, by Louis XIII., and ceded to France by the treaty of the <i>Pyrénées</i> .	PYRÉNÉES ORIENTALES	126,625	Perpignan.

TABLE OF THE HISTORICAL AND MODERN DIVISION OF FRANCE, continued.

Ancient Provinces.	Capitals.	History.	Departments.	Populat.	Chief Towns.
LANGUEDOC	Toulouse	By inheritance, in the reign of Philippe III., 1271.	HAUTE GARONNE	367,551	Toulouse.
			TARN	295,885	Alby.
			ARDE	240,993	Carcassonne.
			HERAULT	301,099	Montpélier.
			GARD	322,144	Nîmes.
			LOZÈRE	143,247	Mende.
			HAUTE LOIRE	266,202	Le Puy.
			ARLÈCHE	296,873	Privas.
DAUPHINÉ	Grenoble	(A donation made to Philippe VI., by Humbert II., dauphin of Viennois, upon the express condition, that the eldest sons of the kings of France should assume the title of Dauphin, and bear the arms of the province.)	ISÈRE	424,660	Grenoble.
			DRÔME	258,872	Valence.
			HAUTES ALPES	124,165	Gap.
COMTAT VENAISSIN ..	Avignon	(This Comtat belonged to the Pope, but it was united to France in 1791, by a decree of the Constituent Assembly.)	VAUCLUSE	205,832	Avignon.
PROVENCE	Aix	(United to the crown by Louis XI., the heir of Charles d'Anjou, Count of Maine, and of Provence.)	BOUCHES DU RHONE ..	293,200	Marseille.
			BASSES ALPES	146,994	Digne.
			VAR	283,296	Dragénaud.
CORSE	Bastia	(Yielded to France by the Genoese in 1768, under the reign of Louis XV.)	CORSE .....	....	Bastia.

FRENCH COLONIES AND SETTLEMENTS IN AFRICA.

Provinces.	History.	Populat.	Chief Towns.
ILE DE BOURBON	Flaccourt took possession of it in 1649, in the name of the king of France. The French first established themselves on this coast so early as 1365, when some mariners from Dieppe discovered the Canaries, and visited Senegal; but they have not retained undisturbed possession of this country, for it has frequently changed its masters. The Portuguese, Spaniards, Dutch, and English, have by turns possessed it. By conquest under Charles X., 1830.	88,581	Saint Paul.
SENÉGAL ET GORÉE		157,164	Saint Louis, Gorée
ALGER		1,870,000	Alger.
SAINTÉ MARIE	About 1769 the French took possession of this island.	1,900	Port Louis.

ASIATIC SETTLEMENTS OF FRANCE.

PONDICHERY, purchased by the king of France in 1672.—CHANDENAGOR, MAHÉ, RINHAL, and YANAON, are small territories scattered through different parts of India.

AMERICAN COLONIES.

FRENCH GUAYANE	The French took possession of this colony in 1635.	22,862	Cayenne.
MARTINIQUE	Discovered by Columbus in 1502; taken possession of by France in 1635.	111,337	Fort Royal.
GUADALOUPE	Discovered by Columbus 1492; taken possession of by the French in 1637.	.....	La Basse Terre.

The FRENCH FISHERIES IN AMERICA, are SAINTÉ PIERRE, MIQUELON, and TERRE NOUVE, which contain a population of 891 souls, and Saint Pierre is the chief town.

SECTION III.

GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE.

THE government of France is that of a limited monarchy; it may also be denominated elective, since the king is styled *King of the French*, an expression which implies a king by the choice of the people. The principal bodies of the state consist of the *Chambre des Pairs*, (the house of Lords,) and the *Chambre des Deputes*, which, with the king, constitute the legislative power.

The power of the monarch consists in his right to pardon offenders, to make war or peace, to appoint his own ministers, name ambassadors and other public functionaries; he can also dissolve the Chamber of Deputies at his pleasure, but he must call a new parliament within three months after its dismissal. The land and sea forces are at his command; and he possesses the power of issuing *ordinances*,—orders in council,—and of exercising many other privileges vested in the crown. The consent of the three bodies of the legislature must all concur before any measure can be legally carried into execution.

CHAMBER OF PEERS—The peers of France are far from enjoying the privileges which, as we have shown in the earlier ages of the monarchy, were little inferior to those of the monarchs themselves. A slight sketch of the rise and fall of this part of the legislative power of France will be interesting to the young, for whose perusal these details are chiefly intended.

The peerage of France has been, by turns, a dignity purely nominal; a judiciary function; a power derived from vassalage to the monarch; an honorary attribute, giving place to the parliament; in short, a legislative chamber, forming an integral part of the monarchy.

The denomination of *Peers of France*, a title which ascends to the most distant periods, was far from having, under the kings of the two first dynasties, the acceptation of modern times. The term *peer*, introduced in the tenth century, was applied to the vassals of the same lord, and designated an equality of rights. Among the Franks, every free citizen was to be judged by his peers (his equals); but this right applied more particularly to the military.

The House of Peers did not exist among that warlike people, but it allowed the creation of nobility. In the early ages of the monarchy, every employment, every public dignity and office, nobility itself, was personal; but, in the sequel, they became territorial, and from the period of *Charles le Chauve* to the establishment of the Commons, in the reign of *Louis VI.*, it was the estate which gave the title. During the first epoch, the right of administering justice was inherent in the nobility. When the feudal system was at its height, the peerage became a dignity attached to the possession of a fief, which gave the right of exercising justice, conjointly with its peers, in the assizes of the superior fief. As the monarchy increased, and its power became efficient, the qualification of *Paire de France* was derived from the monarch, and towards the end of the sixth century six peers alone had that privilege. At the coronation of *Philippe Auguste*, the peers of France figured away for the first time at a public ceremony, as great officers of the crown; and, for the first time likewise, archbishops and bishops were endowed with the same prerogative and the same privileges as the lay peers, and, like them, they were six in number. These twelve peers, vassals of the king, were bound to serve in his army and in his feudal court. They were their own judges in all that concerned their own affairs and those of their lord the king, and from whom their decisions derived their authority. It is rather curious that, in a country where the Salic law prevailed, women, who, in default of heirs male, had succeeded to the title of any one of these peerages, had the right to sit in this high court, and to give an opinion on the judgments that were passed by it; but when the quality of *paire* was no longer attached to the possession of a fief, women lost this privilege. In 1207, under the reign of *Philippe le Bel*, the peers were united to the parliament, each peer being not only considered as feudatory of the first lordship of the kingdom, but as a member of the first body of the state. Until 1505, the dignity of peer had been confined to princes of the blood: it was afterwards extended to princes unallied to the crown, and, in 1559, it was bestowed on *Anne de Montmorency*, Constable and Grand Master of France; and, from this period, it was frequently bestowed upon private gentlemen. Yet, in the sequel, the peers became passive members of the government, and, in fact, they possessed

little more than their title, when the revolution of 1789 swept away even this distinction, which was followed by the abolition of royalty itself.

The government, called *Convention*, instituted a second chamber, called *les Anciens*. During the *Consulate* and the *Empire*, a *Senate* was substituted for the *Anciens*. In 1814, the *Senate* was replaced by the *Chambre de Pairs*. In 1825, the hereditary peerage was abolished, as well as all right of primogeniture. The peerage of France has, consequently, become what it formerly was, a mere personal distinction, with this difference, that it is no longer confined to the military, but is open to all whose talents and conduct have distinguished them among their fellow-citizens, and rendered them eligible in the opinion of the crown to enjoy this rank in society.

The Chamber of Peers is convoked when the king assembles the Chamber of Deputies; and without this summons, a peer could be refused admittance at the door of the Chamber. Their sittings are public. The king appoints a Chancellor, or Speaker of the house, but he need not be a peer. The Chamber of Peers tries all cases of high treason against the state; indeed, its duties are now principally confined to its legal functions. The bills, when they have passed through the lower house, are sent up to them for their sanction, but they seldom enter into any political discussion; the bills are generally passed without comment. Since the celebrated speech of M. Chateaubriand in 1830, no one peer has made any oratorical display.

No peer can be arrested but by the authority of the Chamber of Peers; and he must, as in England, be tried by his *peers*, (originally meaning *equals*, from *pairs*.)

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.—This Chamber is composed of 430 members, chosen from the eighty-six departments. The sittings are septennial. The President, or Speaker, is chosen by the king, from five members nominated by the Chamber. When the king, through his minister, presents a new law to the Chamber, it is examined by the nine *bureaux*, or special committees appointed for this purpose; if three or more of these *bureaux* approve of the law in question, it is laid before the Chamber by the *rapporteur*. Neither the Chamber of Peers nor the Chamber of Deputies can propose a law, except on the subject of taxation. One-half of the members must be present to constitute a house. Their sittings

are public; but, at the suggestion of five members, it can resolve itself into a committee, and exclude strangers.

The different members, called *cabinet ministers*, are nine in number, viz. :—

1. *Minister of Finance*.—The functions of this minister are known by his title: he receives and pays all monies connected with the expences of the state.

2. *Minister of the Interior*.—His duties are most important and extensive. He is in correspondence with all the civil authorities throughout the kingdom. He superintends all those arrangements and institutions, upon which the safety, comfort, and prosperity of the nation depends, viz.: the national guard, police, prisons, and all persons connected with them; public roads, bridges, mines; the theatres, the press, &c.; the payment of the Protestant clergy are under his control; and, as these multifarious duties would exceed the powers of one man, he has directors under him, who transmit to his inspection documents containing the particulars necessary for the thorough understanding of each of these several duties.

3. *Minister of Justice*.—This minister takes cognizance of all those affairs which, in England, come under the jurisdiction of the secretary of the home department.

4. *Minister of Marine and Colonies*.—As his title imports, he has the direction of every thing connected with the navy and the colonies; and the galley slaves, after they arrive at the sea-ports, are under his superintendence; previous to this moment, they are under the charge of the Minister of the Interior.

5. *Minister of Foreign Affairs*.—His duties are connected with ambassadors, and those members of the government whose duties apply to foreign affairs, such as consuls, passports, &c. &c.

6. *Minister of War*.—Everything relating to the military affairs of the kingdom.

7. *Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs*.—This minister corresponds with the pope directly; no bull nor brief can be published in France without his permission; and he enjoys the extraordinary privilege of nominating archbishops, bishops, and other clerical functionaries, as well as superintending the whole of the affairs and expences connected with cathedrals, churches, convents, &c. &c.

8. *Minister of Public Instruction.*—This minister's duties are confined to the *secular instruction* of the people, and all the expences connected with this important department of expenditure. The privileges are very great: he is grand master of the university, confers diplomas in law and physic, authorizes the opening of all boarding schools for girls as well as boys, &c. &c. The Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs, and the Minister of Public Instruction, are generally vested in the same person.

9. *Minister of Commerce and Manufactures.*—His duties are multifarious. Fairs, markets, assurance offices, exchange-brokers, patents, &c.; in short, all objects coming in the slightest degree under titles of commerce and manufactures are, in their most unlimited nature, under his superintendence.

The expences of these several government departments are presented by their respective cabinet ministers to the Chamber of Deputies.

There is also a *Conseil d'Etat*, the members of which are nominated by the king. This council discusses all *projets de loi* before they are presented to the Chamber of Deputies: their several duties generally are divided into sections, viz.:

1. The *Legislative Section*, whose duties are obvious.

The *Section of Interior and Commerce*, whose avocations are connected with that part of the duties of Minister of the Interior, which relate to bridges, public works, &c.

Section of Finance, which takes cognizance of custom house duties, &c. &c.

Section of War and Marine superintends all that relates to the army and navy.

The king has also a *Privy Council* but they are seldom called into action.

The *Audit Office* examines all the accounts of every part of the government.

The judicial organization in France is composed of the *Cour de Cassation*, and a *Cour de Comptes*; (the Chamber of Accounts, somewhat like our Exchequer,) sitting at Paris; twenty-seven *Cours Royales*, sitting in different towns, which will be mentioned hereafter; *Tribunaux de premiere instance*, sitting in the principal towns of the arrondissements or subprefecture; the *Cours Prévotales*, sitting in the principal towns of every depart-

ment; the *Tribunaux de Commerce*, scattered through the principal cities of France; and the *Juges de Paix*, established in every canton.

La Cour de Cassation was constituted by the Constituent Assembly; tempered, as it is, by the promulgation of the *Code Napoléon*, which completed the judiciary reform, it is one of the finest institutions of modern times. There was formerly neither uniformity nor harmony in the administration of justice in France. Every province was governed by its own jurisprudence and customs, oftentimes diametrically opposite to each other. The re-organization of these tribunals of justice, destroyed the ancient feudal jurisdictions, and confirmed to every citizen, of every part of the kingdom, the rights and benefits of common law, leaving to each one, at the same time, his natural judges. The supreme tribunal, *la Cour de Cassation*, provides against the exercise of any of the tribunal authority which might militate against the administration of public justice, or the sound doctrines and principles of the law. The power of the *Cour de la Cassation* consists in annulling the decrees of the courts of justice, and the judgments given finally by the other tribunals, as well civil as military, when they shall contain any opposition to the law; either as to forms, or as to the sentence they shall pronounce.

For example, in the year 1832, when a fearful *émeute* took place at the funeral of General *Lamarque*, two courts-martial were instituted to try, by the decrees of these courts, the offenders who had been taken; two persons were condemned to death, one to hard labour for twenty years, and one to two years imprisonment. On the 20th June, these courts were suddenly broken up by the *Cour de Cassation*, and their sentences reversed as illegal. In the *Cour de Cassation*, and in all the *Cours Royales*, there are *procureurs généraux*, and *avocats généraux*: the former fix the day, and sign the order, for the execution of judgment, and the latter sum up the evidence previous to the sentence being pronounced in court.

The *Cours Royales*, of which there are twenty-seven, constitute the administrative justice of the kingdom, civil as well as criminal; their sittings are held in the following towns:—Agen, Aix, Ajaccio, Amiens, Angers, Besançon, Bordeaux, Bourges, Caen, Colmar, Dijon, Douai, Grenoble, Limoges, Lyon, Metz, Montpellier, Nancy, Nîmes, Orléans, Paris, Pau, Poitiers, Reims,

Riom, Rouen, and Toulouse; and, in the other departments, Courts of Assizes are held, over which a member of the *Cours Royales* presides.

France is divided into eighty-six departments, which are subdivided into 362 arrondissements or districts, 2,842 cantons, and 39,381 communes.

THE PREFECT is the chief magistrate of the department; he is assisted by a *conseiller de préfecture*: his duties consist of the surveillance of every thing relating to the civil and political economy of the department; and all the subordinate officers receive their orders from him, while he receives his from the Minister of the Interior alone.

THE SUB-PREFECT'S authority extends over an arrondissement; and that of the MAYOR over a commune, the smaller division of the department.

All these persons receive salaries.

The law courts, *Première Instance*, are 361 in number; they sit every day in the year, except Sundays, and try minor criminal offences. The members of these courts have a vacation of six weeks in the summer.

To every tribunal of the *Première Instance*, a *procureur du roi*, or king's attorney general is attached: these officers are bound to see the judgments of the court to which they are attached carried into execution.

The tribunals of the simple police, which take cognizance of minor offences, can impose small fines on offenders, and can order imprisonment for a certain number of days, not exceeding five days.

The *Juges de Paix* are 2,846 in number; they are a kind of civil magistrate; these somewhat resemble our justices of the peace; they decide matters of small debt, and frequently interfere and conciliate the parties, or persuade them to submit their cause to arbitrement. There is a tribunal of police in each canton, over which a *Juge de Paix* presides; his office is to see that no one interferes in the prosecution of the laws, or any infraction of the law, the cleanliness of the streets, &c. &c.

There is in every town a commissary of police, who receives a salary according to the means of the population.

In 1830, the different species of crimes, upon which the sentence of death might be passed, were fixed at thirty-seven in

number; and the mode of death for each and all of these is by the guillotine.

The second penal punishment of France is that of condemnation to the galleys, either for life, or for a certain number of years. The prisoners are condemned to hard labour, either on shore, at the principal sea-ports, or in floating hulks. The sea-ports to which the convicts are sent are *Toulon, Brest, Rochefort, and L'Orient*.

The prison appropriated for these malefactors is called *le bagne*; it always forms a part of a citadel on the sea-coast. It consists of a kind of barracks, large and well aired. The prisoners having arrived from the Bicêtre, chained two and two together, are brought to the sea shore, surrounded by a strong guard of soldiers; they are then unchained, their old clothes are taken from them and burnt; they are then plunged several times into the sea, after which ablution they are visited by a surgeon, who ascertains their state of health; and if they are afflicted with any disease, they are sent to the hospital; the rest are chained two together, and sent into the *bagne*. Their dress consists of a dark red jacket and checked pantaloons, upon which appear the letters GAL: a coarse shirt, and heavy shoes. If the man be condemned for life, his cloth cap is green; if for a shorter period, it is dark red. If he be classed among the *indociles*, the sleeves of his jacket are brown; if, on the contrary, he obtains the title of *éprouvés*, that is to say, if he conduct himself well, he will only wear the iron ring round the ankle, and its bolt or peg. The chain which unites them together is terminated by a ring consisting of two parts, which adapts itself to the ankle, and which is closed by a rivetted peg: it consists of eighteen links, six inches long, and it weighs altogether about fourteen pounds and a half: they frequently attach it to their waist by a hook. Perhaps the most galling part of the punishment is this inseparable union of two persons, often of the most opposite tempers and dispositions. Their bedding consists of a mattress, called *strapontin*, and a coarse woollen coverlet; every three years this blanket is changed: but in cases of extreme moral turpitude, and a determination of the prisoner to be obstreperous and unruly, his bed is neither more nor less than a sloping stone, at the foot of which runs an iron rod, to which he is fastened by the foot. The hours of labour are from day-

break to six o'clock in the evening. The persons appointed to superintend the prisoners at their work are called *gardes-chiourmes* (guard of the crew); and each of these has generally five or six couple to overlook: they march to the sound of the pipe and drum; he is responsible for them until they return. Thirty ounces of bread, forty-eight centilitres (hundredth part of an English quart) of wine, four ounces of beans; ~~et~~ *a soupe à l'huile*, constitute their ordinary fare. If they have the means to pay for it, they may get a mess of ~~meat~~ broth, with vegetables, for five centimes, and a portion of meat for ten centimes, at the canteen. The most profound silence is imposed upon them in their sleeping apartments.

The escape of a prisoner is announced by three distinct cannon shot: if he appear before the last cannon, he receives the punishment of the bastonnade; besides which, he is either put in a dungeon, or wears a double chain, or he is hand-cuffed. But if he be not taken until after this time, he is delivered over to a marine court-martial, for the *bagnes* are under the orders of the Minister of the Marine. If he be condemned for a certain time, this period is extended three years longer; and if he be there for life, he is condemned to wear a double chain for three years.

Females, whose crimes stand next to those for which the sentence of death is passed, are not, of course, sent to the galleys; their punishment is in such cases solitary imprisonment.

Besides the prisons which will be mentioned under the head *Paris*, and those which are necessarily dispersed throughout France, there are nineteen *maisons centrales*, and in these are confined all persons of either sex, whose crimes exceed the punishment of one year's imprisonment. They are of two classes, one for the women and one for the men. All persons condemned to imprisonment are compelled to labour; those who do not know a trade are taught one. The prisoners are provided with beds, blankets, and clothes, by the government: they all attend divine service once a week, in a chapel attached to the prison. It is calculated that the expense individually of this class of prisoners amounts to about fifty-eight centimes and a fraction (about sixpence) daily.

Minor offences and misdemeanors are punished by fines and imprisonment, imposed at the discretion of the judges. In 1830

it was decreed that all cases of libel should be tried at the assizes by a jury. Political crimes and offences are tried by the *Chambre des Pairs*.*

The establishment of trial by jury forms a memorable epoch in the legislative history of France. It is not necessary, as in England, that the jury should be unanimous in their decision; a majority of seven to five, by a law of 1835, is sufficient to acquit or condemn a prisoner, and the verdict is given by ballot. The travelling expences of a juror are paid, but he receives no remuneration for his trouble. If a witness be of any trade, and he be compelled to employ a workman during his absence in lieu of himself, he receives the value of two days' labour daily; but if he do not employ a substitute, then he receives as for one day's labour, as his own remuneration; the judge, however, decides in these cases; his travelling expences are likewise paid, if he live at a distance from the court.

But the French jurisprudence lacks one item to make it equal to that of England—an act of *habeas corpus*, which is considered a second *magna charta*, as far as relates to the liberty of the subject. This act should be understood by man, woman, and child, for it is one of the grand bulwarks of personal and the national liberty in England; it has many clauses, which may be reduced to these. A prisoner can demand his liberation upon bail, or a free liberation, or his trial, within a *given time*, viz. that extending between one assizes and another. In cases of high treason and rebellion this *habeas corpus* has been suspended for a short time; but this infringement has always been jealously watched by the subject; and to prevent any underhand or iniquitous connivance between the jailor and the plaintiff, of the prisoner, it is decreed "that officers and keepers neglecting to make due returns, or not delivering to the prisoner or his agent, within six hours after demand, a copy of the warrant of commitment; or shifting the custody of a prisoner from

* Until the year 1789, the punishment of standing in the pillory was in exercise in France. The most celebrated of these pillories was that situated in the *Carreaux des Halles*. In 1515, *Laurens Bayard*, the executioner of public justice, having ascended to the upper part, where the prisoners were exposed to public odium, some of the surrounding multitude set fire to the building, and the executioner was thus himself executed.

one prison to another, without sufficient reason or authority, (specified in the act,) shall, for the first offence, forfeit £.100, and for the second offence, £.200, to the party aggrieved, and be disabled also to hold his office. That no person once delivered by habeas corpus shall be recommitted for the same offence, on penalty of £.500. To return to France:

The tribunals of commerce are 213 in number; they consist of presidents and judges, chosen among the most respectable of the merchants of each city; they receive no emolument, but the clerks have a salary.

In France no person can be imprisoned for a debt till that debt shall have been first established by the judgment of a competent tribunal. On the other hand, no debtor can obtain his liberation by the unreserved cession of the whole of his property to his creditors. Imprisonment ceases at the end of the first year, if the debt be under 500 francs; at the end of two years, if under 1,000 francs; at the end of three years, if under 3,000 francs; at the end of four years, if under 5,000 francs; and at the end of five years, when the debt amounts to 5,000 francs, or upwards. Imprisonment for rent of rural property is discretionary, at the will of the judge before whom the trial takes place. The maximum is ten years, by the law of 1832; the discretionary power of the judge is limited to five years. Imprisonment for debt is not allowed at the suit of relatives within the prescribed law of consanguinity: No persons, who are not citizens of France, can sue each other for a debt. They cannot arrest, or even sue, unless upon a bill of exchange or negotiable security. A measure, analagous to the English arrest on mesne process, is provided, however, for the security of the French creditor against his foreign debtor. If possessed of a commercial establishment, or of real property in France, he can obtain his liberation on finding the security of persons domiciled in France, and known to be solvent. No person, native or foreigner, aged seventy years, can be imprisoned for debt.

Arrest must not be before sun-rise or after sun-set, on fête days, in buildings dedicated to divine worship, at the seat of judgment, nor in any house whatever, even in the domicile of the debtor, unless the Juge de Paix of the place accompany the officer. But this he only does when the debtor resists the officer's entrance in the execution of his duty. The law of arrest for

debt takes foreigners at a disadvantage, by doubling the term of imprisonment. Thus an Englishman cannot obtain his liberation for a debt of 500 francs under a period of two years; at the end of four years, when it does not amount to 1000 francs. This was one of Buonaparte's laws, a law of the revolution, which the liberal government of 1830 has not annulled.

State of crime in France, in 1832.—According to an official statement published in France, 6,162 charges were tried before the Court of Assize, making an increase of 312 charges and 832 prisoners upon those of 1831, though the number of criminals is only increased by fifty. The number of charges brought forward of crimes committed against persons was 1,331; against property, 3,965 in number. The proportion of the number of the accused to the total of the population is one out of 4,304. In 1831, it was one out of 4,281. The departments of the *Seine* and *Corsica* furnished the greater number of cases, in proportion to their population, and that of the *Creuse* the least, the accused being only one out of 15,610 inhabitants. Of the accused, 4,540 could neither read nor write; 2,192 could read and write; but imperfectly; 682 could read and write well; and 151 had been educated in a superior manner. Out of the seventy-four persons condemned to death, three committed suicide in prison; forty were executed; and thirty-one obtained a commutation of punishment. A member of the Academy of Medicine of Paris, Dr. Chevalier, and a *M. Bays-de-Loury*, have declared that, within seven years, 273 persons have been tried for poisoning, 171 of whom have been acquitted, and 102 condemned. In many of these cases, the victims escaped death from the peculiar flavour given by the poison to the food in which it was conveyed; and, in some instances, suspicion was excited by the colour it received from the poisonous ingredients.

Minister of Finance.—The system of taxation in France, as at present established, is divided into two channels; those called *direct*, and those called *indirect taxes*. The direct taxes consist of a land tax, called *impôt foncier*, the *contribution personnelle*, the *contribution mobilière*, which come under the same class, and the tax on doors and windows, licence duties, and mine duties.

The *impôt foncier* is a tax levied upon the value of houses or lands, and it is thus raised:—The prefect of each department.

having received intimation of the sum required, through the Minister of the Interior, summons then the sub-prefect and the mayor, and they portion out the sum to be levied on each individual; an officer, called *répartiteur*, which may be translated into assessor, collects this tax. The land-tax is rated, not upon the extent of the land, but upon its value, so that in some parts of France, the department of the Seine, for instance, it is three times more than in poorer departments; and this seems the most equitable way of taxation, for in every respect it is proportional.

The *contribution personnelle*.—This is a tax rated upon every individual, and is equal to three days' labour; it must never exceed one franc fifty centimes, nor fall short of fifty centimes per day, for the three days.

The *contribution mobilière*, is a tax levied upon habitations, not upon houses only, at the rate of three per cent.; its maximum is thirty francs, and its minimum five francs. The houses of Paris are built to a great height, and every story may contain a separate family, and each family contributes its quota of this tax in the above proportion.

The tax on doors or windows is in proportion to the population; that is to say, the proportion in *small towns* is lighter than in the principal cities; for instance, a house in a commune where the population is under 5,000, would pay one franc sixty centimes for a door or gateway, while the same tax would amount to seven francs and fifty centimes, where the population amounted to 25,000, and so on in proportion: this tax is confined to the householder.

The licence duties are extensive and productive, for they extend to every profession and trade, in various proportions, from the merchant, who contributes from forty to 300 francs, to the pedlar, who pays thirty francs annually. Physicians, surgeons, &c., are not exempt; but the banker pays 500 francs annually, whatever may be the population of the town in which he resides, which is, in other cases, proportioned, as in the window tax.

The mines, too, are heavily taxed, for they not only pay so much for the extent and value of their interior treasures, but pay land-tax for their superficies. The product of these taxes is uncertain as to the amount, seldom or never are two years alike. The *indirect taxes* consist principally of those levied on articles

of consumption; such, for instance, as *permits* to remove wine and spirits from one place to another, upon its sale, &c.

The *octroi*, which is the tax levied of one-tenth upon the amount of all provisions entering cities and towns.

The duties upon playing cards, carriages, salt, and gunpowder; ferry-boats, gold and silver, when manufactured; plated articles, stamps; registry of acts and deeds, Custom-house duties, &c. &c., constitute a large portion of the revenues of France. But she likewise derives large sums from the Post-office and messageries, gaming-houses, and lotteries. The royal woods and forests, the salt works belonging to government; the monopoly of tobacco, snuff, &c., produce large amounts. The lottery alone, in 1829, produced the sum of 12,777,528 francs; and, in 1830, the enormous sum of 5,500,000 francs, or £229,166. 13s., was the amount received from farming the gaming houses.

The amount of the *indirect taxes* in France, in 1833 and 1834, was as follows:—

	1833.	1834.
Duties on registering, stamps, and in the } registering in the mortgage office	191,795,000	194,041,000
Custom house duties, navigation	106,102,000	106,250,000
Duties on the consumption of salt when ex- } tracted upon the coast	53,307,000	51,911,000
Duties upon liquors	74,621,000	68,244,000
Duties upon salt extracted in the interior ...	7,331,000	6,757,000
Divers taxes indirect, public carriages, &c. ...	26,401,000	25,058,000
Product of the sale of tobacco	72,643,000	69,631,000
Do. do. gunpowder	4,553,000	3,561,000
Product of the taxes on letters, law, and } 5 per cent. upon the conveyance of money. }	32,712,000	32,032,000
Product of the taxes on the cross-roads	1,606,000	1,503,000
Do. do. inails and packets ..	1,809,000	1,329,000
Lottery	5,583,000	10,140,000
Total	578,463,000	573,949,000

The budget of 1836 is given in at the round sum of 1,994,985,897 francs; about eighty-three millions sterling; or better than £2. 12s. 3d. a head for the entire population of thirty-two millions of souls.

THE KING is the head of the army. The *Minister of War*

who is likewise head of the ordnance department, is the responsible agent.

By the third article of the charter, every Frenchman admitted into the army is capable of rising gradually, if his conduct merit the distinction, to every progressive degree of rank.

The different ranks in the French army are:—

MARÉCHAL DE FRANCE.—This dignity was created in 1185; it was suppressed during the revolution, but was resumed during the empire. The number of marshals is limited to twelve. A lieutenant-general cannot become a marshal unless he has had the command of an army.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL.—This military grade was instituted in 1663. It is the first rank among general officers.

MARÉCHAL DU CAMP.—This grade had its origin in 1534. These *maréchals* command the brigade of the army, and, for a time, replace a lieutenant-general of divisions. They have the command of the departments or military subdivisions of the strong places, and fulfil the functions of chiefs of the *état-major de l'armée*.

INTENDANT MILITAIRE.—Created in 1817: officers whose military rank assimilate to those of general officers; but their particular office relates to the commissariat.

SUB-INTENDANT MILITAIRE.—These officers rank, according to their class, with colonels: their duties are also belonging to the commissariat.

COLONEL.—A rank of 1534. They have the command of regiments and strong places: they fulfil the functions of *chefs d'état major* of the division of the army and territorial divisions; appoint corporals and non-commissioned officers, &c.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.—This rank has the same date as the above, 1534. The lieutenant-colonel of a regiment is the intermediate link between the colonel and his duties.

CHEF DE BATAILLON.—Created in 1774. These officers are responsible for the theoretical and practical instructions of their battalions.

CHEF D'ESCADRONS.—Created in 1774. This officer has the same duties to perform in the gendarmerie, artillery, and cavalry, as the *Chef de Bataillon*. In the cavalry he commands two squadrons.

MAJOR.—This rank dates from 1515; he is chief of a battalion or squadron. The major is a member of the *conseil d'administration*, and responsible for its proceedings.

ADJUTANT-MAJOR.—Employed and created in 1790. The adjutant-majors are captains or lieutenants. They are charged with all the duties of the service, as well as the theoretical and practical construction of the non-commissioned officers and corporals. They have nothing to do with the interior police and the administration of the companies.

CAPTAIN.—This rank was created in 1355. The captain is the principal and chief officer of a company. He is the medium of all the demands of those beneath him to his superiors: he is treasurer and *officier d'habillement*. There are two classes of captains and lieutenants in the infantry, and likewise in the cavalry; their pay is different.

LIEUTENANT.—A step created in 1589. Officer of a company.

SUB-LIEUTENANT.—Created in 1589. The third officer of a company; he is employed by the captain in all the details of the service, either of police, or in the administration of the company.

PORTE-DRAPEAU and PORTE ETENDARD are sub-lieutenants.

CHIRURGIEN-MAJOR.—The creation of medical officers dates in 1651. The chirurgien-major ranks with a captain: there is one to every regiment, with an assistant, called

AIDE-MAJOR, who ranks as lieutenant. If the wound or malady of the soldier be dangerous, he is conveyed to the nearest military hospital.

ADJUTANT SOUS OFFICIER.—Created in 1771. These officers have the command of the sub-officers, and the surveillance of their conduct.

SERGEANT-MAJOR.—He is the first sub-officer in a company, he takes cognizance of the conduct of the corporals and soldiers.

SERGEANT.—This grade was invented in 1485. The functions of this officer resemble those of the sergent-major, to whom he is accountable. In the cavalry and the gendarmerie he is called *marechal-du-logis*.

FOURRIER.—This office was instituted in 1534, and his name in English, *harbinger*, will explain in part his duties: he sees to the lodgings, food, &c.

CORPORAL.—This sub-officer was created in 1534. His duties

consist in a strict surveillance of the arms, persons, and discipline of the soldiers. In the artillery, cavalry, and gendarmerie he is called *brigadier*.

GRENADIER and CARABINIER, and the *Voltiguers*, are chosen by the colonel, at the representation of the heads of battalions, as men of peculiar intelligence, information, skill in firing, agility, and all those qualities which constitute a soldier *par excellence*.

There are, besides these officers, sappers, miners, armourers, veterinary surgeons, farriers, saddlers, shoe-makers, and tailors, attached to the army. Besides these, there is also another sub-officer, called *Vague-nestre*, who is chosen by the colonel to fetch the letters from the post-office, and to deliver them according to their address.*

The French army embraces every individual throughout France and her colonies who bears arms, including the municipal guard, and the company of *sapier-pompier* (fire-men) of the city of Paris.

ÉTAT MAJOR-GÉNÉRAL.

The *État Major-Général* of the army is composed of the marshals of France, lieutenants-general, and marshals of the camp. These officers are divided into officers on service, and officers in reserve. In 1834 there were 122 lieutenants-general, and 185 marshals of the camp; but, by a decree of 1830, as these officers die off, their places will not be supplied beyond the 100 lieutenants-general, and 150 marshals of the camp.

CORPS ROYAL D'ÉTAT MAJOR.

This corps was created in 1818: its peace and war establishment are equal: it consists of 560 officers of progressive degrees of rank.

INTENDANCE MILITAIRE.

This corps was created in 1817; its functions are numerous. It superintends all reviews, the pay of the troops, the inspection

* It may not be improper to add here, with regard to letters, that the name of the *Bureau de Poste* should be added to the name of the place they are to go to, as well as that of the department. All letters addressed to the military should bear the name of the legion, for the infantry, and of the squadron for the cavalry, and the number of the regiment for the cavalry, cuirassiers, dragoons, light horse, or hussars.

MILITARY DIVISIONS.

ETATS MAJORS DES PLACES.

- This body consists of ninety officers, whose business it is to purchase and train horses for the French cavalry.

ARTILLERY AND ENGINEERS.

Before the invention of gunpowder, the name of artillery was given to all the machines used in war, as the means of destruction in sieges and battles. This artillery was then divided into two classes: the first comprehended the workmen employed in the construction of machines, which were denominated *engines*, and the second comprehended the persons who were appointed to manœuvre them. The first were called engineers; their duties extended to the construction of ramparts, ditches, parapets, &c., whether composed of brick, masonry, or earth; the second were called artillery men: this division was established in 1218.

The artillery was composed of the grand master of the arbalétriers (cross-bow-men), since denominated grand master of the artillery of archers, cannoneers, carpenters, and arbalétriers à pieds, engineers, masters of the engines, pioneers, and several officers, both civil and military. The discovery of gunpowder in 1256, or, as some say, in 1330, introduced the use of fire-arms, and insensibly destroyed that of many of the ancient engines of war. In the reign of Philippe de Valois, in 1338, there were cannon in the arsenals of France: in 1368 there is an officer mentioned as *master of the king's cannon*, who was to provide four cannon for the garrison of Harfleur. Cannon were used by the English at the battle of Cressy. Louis XII. had twelve brass cannon cast of an extraordinary size, which he named after the twelve peers of France; and, in the reign of Charles VIII., there was a cannon, somewhat like a mortar, which projected balls of 500 lbs. weight from the Bastille to Charenton. The first projectiles discharged by cannon were nothing more than rounded stones, balls of lead, or sand.

In the reign of Henry II. there were eleven arsenals, or magazines of artillery, in France: they were established at Paris, Bordeaux, Aix, Toulouse, Lyon, Dijon, Troyes, Amiens, Tours, Rouen, and Pignerol.

Until the time of Sully's administration there existed no regular and permanent troops attached to the service of the artillery; they consisted merely of bands or companies of cannoniers, who were dismissed in times of peace; but Sully saw the insufficiency of this system, and established regular and per-

manent bodies of bombardiers and cannoniers; but even these were found, in the course of time, inefficient; and in 1694 a regiment was instituted, called *fusiliers du roi*. It consisted of four companies, viz, one of cannoniers, one of sappers, and two of workmen. Twenty-two new companies were created the following year, one of which was a company of *grenadiers*. The number of battalions was gradually increased to twenty-two. In 1684, the companies of *bombardiers*, that were detached in different garrisons, were denominated *regiments royal de bombardiers*, and, in 1693, the regiment of the *fusiliers du roi* took the name of *regiment royal artillerie*. In 1758, the six battalions of the *corps royal* were converted into as many brigades, of eight companies each. In 1765, these brigades formed seven regiments, to which were attached six companies of miners, and nine of artificers. These different corps, with the officers employed in the garrisons, formed the new *corps royal d'artillerie*. Some companies of light artillery, created in 1791 and 1794, formed the nucleus of the eight regiments of this force, created in 1795, and reduced to six in 1801. The foot artillery were likewise augmented in 1795, by an eighth regiment.

During the consulate and the empire the artillery received a considerable augmentation. The following table will give a statistic review of the gradual augmentation and importance of this military force since 1691 to 1825, including the auxiliary troops, which make a part of it.

1691 Comprehending the regiment of bombardiers and the officers	4,436
1756 After the union of the engineers and the artillery	6,272
1765 After the formation in brigades	10,861
1765 After the formation of regiments, peace footing } 8,890, war	12,400
1776 After the organization	11,991
1790 Peace establishment, 9,383; war establishment ..	13,115
1795 Comprehending the <i>pontonniers</i> , created the same year	41,287
1805 Peace establishment, 39,643; war ditto	52,885
1809 War establishment	69,022
1812 War establishment	87,722
1814 Restoration	77,217
1825 Organization, 27th Feb., peace establishment } 13,834; war ditto	28,160

The ordinance of the 5th of August, 1829, which re-organizes the royal artillery, changes the composition of this force, and reunites the light artillery to the foot artillery.

France enumerates, at this present time, fourteen regiments of artillery, forming an effective force of 22,000 men, and 8,000 horses, for the peace establishment, and 40,600 men, and 30,000 horses, for the war establishment. Besides these troops there are many others attached to the French army, such as the corps of *maroules*; of veterans; the departmental companies; the foreign legion; the battalion of Zouaves; the regiment of *chasseurs*, in Africa; the companies of the *gardes-côtes d'Alger*; the *gend-armerie*; the *chasseurs-lorres*; the *garde municipale*; and the *sapier-pompier*s, of the city of Paris. But the details of these various corps would extend this subject to too great a length, which professes only an outline of the subject.

The army is recruited by voluntary enrolment, or enrolments according to law: the young men are divided into classes, and chance decides which are to be enlisted: 80,000 men is the annual number of recruits; the service is for seven years. All Frenchmen who are twenty years old are liable to serve in the army. Besides persons deficient in height, or afflicted with other infirmities, the following are exempt from serving. The eldest son, who is an orphan; the eldest son or only son, son-in-law, or grandson of a widow, or of a blind father, or of a father whose age is beyond seventy; the eldest of two brothers who may have both been drawn; he whose brother is in actual service, or who has died in actual service, or who is incapable from old wounds; the scholars of the Polytechnique, normal, ecclesiastical schools, &c.; the ministers of public instruction; they who have carried off the prizes at the Institute or the University.*

* The following anecdote is a fact, though the writer cannot recollect the name of the parties, nor the department in which it happened:—

A young man of amiable manners being drawn for the army, his mother, who was dotingly fond of him, gave way to such a paroxysm of frantic grief, at the idea of separation from such a son, that serious apprehensions were entertained of the result. Her husband, in despair, hastened to the Council of Revision, and inquired whether his son would have been permitted to remain with his mother, were she a widow; being answered in the affirmative, he hastily withdrew, and destroyed himself.

A Council of Revision, composed of the prefet, a counsellor of the prefecture, of a member of the council general of the department, of a member of the council of the arrondissement, of the general commandant of the department, assisted by a member of the military intendance, presides in every department at the enlisting of recruits. There is in every department a superior officer, or captain commandant of the *Depot de Recrutement*, and charged with the detail of the service.

NATIONAL GUARD.

This body is composed of the citizens of France, and consists of a body of cavalry and infantry, amounting to 5,729,052 men, formed upon a calculation of eighteen out of every 100 men, and 100 inscriptions of sixty-six upon the ordinary service.

The armament of this body consists of 871,208 guns, (*fusils*,) 21,889 muskets, (*mousquetons*,) 4,094 pairs of pistols, 242,123 sabres, 343 swords for officers of artillery, 2,544 lances, 630 capions.

There are some companies of sappers and miners among them.

The king nominates the chiefs of the legion, and the lieutenants-colonel, from a list of ten candidates presented to him by the electors of battalions. The men elect the other officers.

The adjutants of battalions and legions receive, the latter, 2,500 francs; the former, 1,500 per annum. The drummers and fifers are also paid.

PAY OF THE FRENCH TROOPS.

Under the kings of the first dynasty, the booty taken from the enemy, the ransom of prisoners, and the military benefices instituted by Clovis, constituted the pay of the soldiers of France; and the same system prevailed all Europe, until at different periods, and from different causes, a regular sum was assigned by the government for the military expences of the kingdom. Under the second, and at the commencement of the third, race of the kings of France, the troops were partially paid by the provinces; but even then, the *solde*, or pay, consisted rather of subsistence, or payment in provisions and clothes, than of money. But, at this early period, the partial distribution of the taxes, the confusion which reigned in the levy of troops, prevented any regular order in the payment. In 1190, when *Philippe-Auguste* set out for the holy wars in Palestine, he fixed the

pay of the foot-soldiers at a halfpenny (*a sou*) a day; hence the derivation of the word *soldat*; but this regulation was but transient in its effect. *Philippe-le-Hardi* in vain essayed to establish a regular and effective army, which regular and effective pay could alone establish. *Philippe-le-Bel* was more fortunate; he succeeded in this arduous undertaking, by creating the direct and personal tax, of the fifth of the revenues; and the indirect tax, known before 1794, under the name of *aides*. But it was not until the reign of Charles VII. (1445) that the pay of the soldier was fixed and regulated; he established the tax called *la taille*,* which supplanted *la contribution directe*.

In the time of *Philippe-le-Hardi*, the soldiers' pay was as follows:—

	sous.	decimes	per diem.
<i>Chevalier banneret</i> (captain)	50	..	—
<i>Bachelier</i> (lieutenant)	25	..	—
<i>Écuyer</i> (esquire)	7	..	6
<i>Hommes d'armes</i> (gentleman)	2	..	6
<i>Lanciers, archers, serjens d'arbalétriers</i> }	1	..	—
Lancers, archers, serjents of the cross bow }	1	..	—
<i>Fantassins</i> (foot soldiers)	1	..	—

Value of money in those times:

	fr.	cent.
20 sous	17	28
<i>Le marc d'argent</i>	5	93
<i>Le setier de blé</i> }	—	93
12 bushels of corn }	—	8

Under Louis XIV. the pay was as follows:—

	sous.	cent.	
Foot soldier	5	or 57	actual present value.
Horse soldier	7	or 62	do. do.

* The *taille* was a tax so called, because the collector kept a tally corresponding with one they delivered to those paying the tribute, and which served as a receipt for the payment. The *taille* was three-fold, viz.—

1st. The real *taille*, which was levied upon real property.

2d. The personal *taille*, which was levied on income arising from commerce and industry.

3d. The mixed *taille*, which arose from both these sources. From this tax, however, the military were exempt. The lands of the clergy and the noblesse were exempt, if not engaged in trade or commerce.

In 1806, the pay of the French infantry was for—

	Campagne d'élite. du Centre.	
The captains.....	2,000 ..	2,400 francs per annum.
Lieutenant	1,300 ..	1,450 do. do.
Second lieutenant	1,200 ..	—

Sergeant-major, or marechal des-logis-chef	95 c. to	1 f. per day.
Sergeant-major, or marechal des-logis or fourrier	77	to 85 c. do.
Corporal	60	to 65 do.
Soldier	45	to 50 do.
Drummer, fifer, trumpeter	55	to 60 do.

For the cavalry :—

	heavy horse.	light infantry.
Captain	2,300 francs ..	2,500 per annum.
Lieutenant	1,450 do. ..	1,650 do.
Second lieutenant	1,200 do. ..	1,350 do.

	fr.	cent.	fr.	cent.	
Sergeant-major.....	1	3	1	15	per day.
Fourrier.....	—	90	—	5	do.
Brigadier	—	62	—	67	do.
Private	—	48	—	55	do.
Drummer, fifer, trumpeter,	—	85	—	99	do.

MARINE OF FRANCE.

The following ports, *Brest*, *Toulon*, *Rocheport*, *Cherbourg*, and *L'Orient*, are the grand depôts of the French naval military stores and ship-building, &c. At *Dunkerque*, *Saint-Servant*, and *Bayonne*, there are likewise dock-yards for the construction of ships. At *La Chaussade*, in the department of *la Nièvre*, the French government has a manufactory for anchors, chain-cables, and other iron articles belonging to vessels; and the establishment at *Indrets*, near *Nantes*, is solely appropriated to the construction of steam vessels.*

* On the 1st of January, 1834, the number of steam-boats in France, exclusive of those of the government, amounted to ninety-five. The

On the 1st January, 1833, the French naval force consisted of 33 ships of the line, 37 frigates, 26 corvettes, 57 brigs of different kinds, 18 gollettas, cutters, and luggers, 36 flotilla vessels, 17 steam-vessels, 20 sloops, 28 lighters, 4 transports; making, in all, 287 vessels. Besides these, there were on the stocks, 24 ships of the line, 26 frigates, 5 corvettes, and 8 sloops, in a state of forwardness.

By an ordinance on the 1st March, 1831, the officers of the navy were to be as follow:—

- 3 admirals, 10 vice-admirals, 20 rear-admirals.
- 28 post captains of the first line.
- 42 post captains of the second class.
- 70 captains of frigates.
- 90 captains of sloops.
- 450 lieutenants of ships of the line.
- 550 lieutenants of frigates.
- 200 mates of the 1st class.
- 300 do. of the 2d class.

Under the orders of these officers, are placed the non-commissioned officers and the sailors.

The *chiqueurmes*, composed of 7,000 criminals, are attached to the marine service; they are employed in the laborious works in the ports and dock-yards, and form the guard of the galley-slaves.

The name of every French citizen destined to serve in the navy, is entered in a register; and all persons who have been two years at sea in a merchant or fishing vessel, are required to repair to the Bureau of Inscriptions in his parish, accompanied by his father and two friends, where he registers his name, and he is then subject to the naval conscription; and, indeed, although he should not do this, he is still liable to the impress service. If a volunteer, or even a *mousse*, who has been at sea for some time, be desirous of entering a ship of war, he receives a bounty equal to two months' pay.

Number of machines to set them in motion were 118, viz.: eighty-two low pressure, and thirty-six high pressure. It must be observed, that these boats, having been built some time, were principally constructed on the low pressure principle. Of these, there were 118 machines, equal to the power of 3,480 horses:—thirty-four were of French construction, fifty-nine foreign, and twenty-five not stated. At the present moment, the proportion of French-built machines is as 125 to five.—(*Times Newspaper*.)

Every maritime district is divided into quarters, and the sailors in each quarter are subdivided into four classes, viz.: that of unmarried men, widowers without children, married men without children, and married men with children; the sailors are chosen from the first class; and, if more be wanting, then recourse is had to the second class, and so on in progression. After fifty years of age, every seaman is at liberty to quit the public service, though he may still pursue maritime employment in merchant vessels, &c. The sailors serving on board the whale fishery are exempt from the naval conscription. In 1823, a new law was passed upon this subject, by which a permanent body of seamen was to be formed, which should be entitled, *Equipage de Ligne*, and which should consist of a staff of ten persons, and of four companies of 150 men each.

Four schools are attached to each company, viz. one for mathematics, as applied to navigation, for the young officers; a school on the Madras system; a swimming, and a fencing school.

There is also a formidable adjunct to the naval service in a regiment of artillery, composed of 24 companies, each of 100 men; these companies form a part of the port garrisons, which are under the command of a Maritime Préfet, an officer resembling our Port Admiral. They are called *Troupes de la Marine*. This is one of the most expensive corps of the navy; it costs the government the sum of 1,000,000 of francs annually.

A corps of engineers, called *Génie Maritime*, is likewise attached to the navy: their services are confined to the superintendence of the dock-yards.

PAY OF THE FRENCH NAVY.

The Maritime Prefet, when not employed at sea, for he is a Vice-Admiral or Rear-

Admiral	18,000 fr. per ann.
Vice-Admiral	15,000
Rear-Admiral	10,000
Post-Captain of the 1st class	5,000
Ditto 2nd do.	4,500
1st Lieutenant	2,000
2nd Ditto	1,500
Mate, 1st class	800

Midshipmen, Mates of the 2nd class, and Volunteers, no pay; but they have an allowance of rations when at sea.

			At sea, with rations.	On shore, with bread.
Seamen of the 1st class, monthly			30 fr. 00 cents.	29 fr. 10 cents.
" Ditto 2nd do.	do.	..27	00	..26 19
" Ditto 3rd do.	do.	..24	00	..23 28
Apprentices	do.	..21	65	..21 00
Mousse, Cabin Boy....	db.	..18	10	..17 56

From this pay 3 per cent. is deducted for the support of the sick.

There is no establishment for invalid and aged sailors in France, but they are sometimes received at the *Hôtel des Invalides*, at Paris; and at the great sea-ports there are hospitals for the sick.

There are several schools in France for the instruction of youth for the navy; the principal one is that at *Angoulême*, which costs the government 62,000 francs per annum: 150 scholars are here educated gratuitously. The other marine schools in the principal ports increase the expence to the sum of 170,000 francs per annum.

MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ECCLESIASTIQUES.

Education and Public Instruction.

The system of public instruction in France, as at present constituted, forms one vast body, which, like the military system of the country, radiates from Paris, as its centre, to all parts of the country. The University of Paris is the head of public instruction; by the means of its *Academies* and *Collèges Roiaux*, by which term may be understood schools, either dependant upon itself, or by its control over *Collèges*, denominated in English, private boarding-schools, all of which must be licensed by the *academie* within whose jurisdiction it is placed. There are, however, schools called *Écoles Speciales*, which are independent of the university, viz. the *Jardin du Roi*, *École royale et speciale des beaux Arts*, *École royale, Speciale et gratuite de dessin*, *Écoles royales Veterinaires d'Alfort* and of *Lyon*; *Collège royal de France*, *École royale Polytechnique*, *Écoles royales des Arts et Metiers of Paris*; of *Châlons sur Marne*, and of *Angers*; *École royale des Mines*, *École royale des Pons et Chaussées*, *Écoles royales Militaires, de Saint Cyr, de la Flèche*, &c.; besides several other schools of inferior note.

- The Colléges *Royaux*, which are 34 in number, are divided into various classes or grades; those of Paris and Versailles are in the first class. Every *Collège* is superintended by the following professors, *viz.* :—

Provisor	at a salary of 5,000 fr. per ann.	} 1st grade, those of Paris and Versailles.
Censor	do. 3,500	
Almoner	do. 3,500	
Home Director	do. 3,000	
Professor of 1st order	do. 3,000	
Professor of 2nd order	do. 2,500	

At Paris..... 900 } for each scholar's
At Versailles 750 } board,
besides 100 francs, in that of Paris, for the expence of books and other articles connected with education, and 50 francs in all the other *Colléges Royaux*.

At Rouen, Strasbourg, Lyon, Marsilles, and Bordeaux, there are *Colléges* of the second class;

At Rheims, Carn, Amiens, Douai, Metz, Besançon, Dijon, Grenoble, Nîmes, Montpellier, Toulouse, Orléans, Nantes, and Rennes, there are colleges of the third class;

And at Nancy, Avignon, Tournon, Rhodes, Cahors, Pau, Poitiers, Bourges, Pontivy, Limoges, Clermont, and Moulins, there are colleges of the fourth class.

To every *Collège* there are attached, forty-one bursaries, or free admissions; but they are not all of the same value: those of the first class admit the scholars free entirely; those of the second allow one-third of the expence, and the third class the half.

Under the article Paris will be found all further particulars as relates to the University of Paris.

But the most important part of the public instruction of France, as concerns the people, and which has engrossed so much attention in these times, is that connected with the *Écoles primaires*. These schools are placed under the superintendence of committees, one of which is established in every canton. The curé, the *Juge de Paix*, and the principal of the collège, if there be one in the canton, are the members *ex officio*. The other members are chosen by the rector, upon the recommendation of the *prefet*. Whether these schools be established by private individuals, or by public munificence, the masters and teachers must all undergo an examination before they can be permitted

to teach. The strange transformation which these schools have not only made in the mode of teaching, but perhaps more in the characters of children, is admirably described by a French author thus:

“The countenances of the masters, the scholars; the aspect of the school-room, the weariness, the pleasures of early study, all are changed.

“The prolonged griefs of the alphabet, spelling, of the rudiments of the language; the confusion of copy-books, moveable desks, so favourable to the cunning tricks of the scholars; the kicks under the table, the war of grimace, the apples munched behind a book, the caricatures of the master hastily sketched, now hidden, now carefully displayed; the starts, the terror at the sound of the master’s voice, upon the slightest motion of his ferula, at the smallest movement of his leathern arm-chair, stained with ink, and lacerated by the penknife: such are the recollections that present themselves to those who were educated before primary schools were established; and these recollections were for centuries related, with ill-suppressed smiles, to the sons, who were astonished to find how much they resembled their fathers! There are no longer such fire-side relations in store for the present generation. A school-room is for them, a vast apartment, silent as the choir of a church; the forms, regularly placed, are fastened to the floor; every countenance is directed to the master, whose vigilant eye commands attention and prevents all mischievous tricks. Eight or ten children under his order, *lieutenants* (monitors), constantly changed, and selected for their steady conduct, superintend every row of the scholars, and command order, silence, and attention, in his name.”

It is to the benevolent *Abbé Gaultier* that France is really indebted for her establishments of primary instruction. He was born in Italy, but his father and his mother were French, and he fixed his residence in France. During the revolution he lived in Holland and England, where he spent his time chiefly in giving instruction to the children of poor emigrants. It is said the following circumstance first gave him the idea of making children instruct each other. Some young men, whom he had induced to join him in his laudable endeavours of gratuitous instruction, suddenly became disgusted with their employment, and, in the middle of the lessons, they one day threw up their

employment. The Abbé Gaultier very coolly desired some of the elder scholars to stand forward, and, having given them certain instructions, he appointed them *masters* of the younger ones. In 1814, he made himself perfect in the Lancasterian system, and on his return to France, he laid his documents before the minister *Carnot*, and from this moment devoted all his time to these schools. Every Thursday he assembled the monitors at his house, where he gave them a higher degree of instruction, exhorting them at the same time to persevere in well-doing, and pointing out to them their several duties. Before his death, which took place on the 19th Sept. 1818, he was appointed Vice-President of the Council for the Administration of Elementary Instruction in France. But the first private, if it may be so called, school of mutual instruction opened in France, was by *M. Martin*, a Protestant minister; and the *Société d'instruction élémentaire*, founded at Paris, in June, 1815, gave every assistance to his project, and has since continued to extend the influence of these useful establishments. Three schools of this description have been since established in the capital by the society, — one for girls, one for boys, and one for adults; these have been succeeded by many more, and from a pamphlet published by this society the following extracts are made:—

“In these schools, reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, outline-drawing, music, and singing, are taught. In the girls' school needle-work is substituted for drawing; the study of geography is also taught. When a school of this kind is about to be founded, an intelligent young man is despatched to one of the normal schools, where he makes himself master of the system of instruction *mutuel*.* For a school capable of containing 200 pupils, the following is the statement of expence given:—

1. The platform and desk of the master, clock,
books, forms and tables, &c. &c. &c. 650 to 760 frs.
2. General instruments, and divers articles 60.. 70
3. For those objects applied to reading, such as a
collection of pictures, shelves, frames, books,
lithographic copy-books 60.. 120
4. For writing—Pictures or models, slates, port,
crayons, slate-pencils, paper, pens, ink, sand. 160.. 180

* The system of *instruction mutuel* resembles that introduced by Bell and Lancaster.

5. For arithmetic—Tableaux, square pieces of wood, and manuels; frames and shelves, black tableaux, slates and slate-pencils, chalk-pencils 140 to 160 frs.
6. For grammar—Tableaux, frames, shelves, or manuels 55.. 66
7. Lineary drawing—Pictures and manuels, instruments, paper, pencils, for one year 70
8. For music—Tableaux and guides, instruments, box, cases, &c. 90

So that the original expence and one year's expenditure of such an establishment, for 200 pupils, would amount to about 1,200 or 1,400 francs; but this does not include the salary of the master or of the mistress, neither lighting nor warming the school.

These *écoles primaires* are of two descriptions; the one, in which the parents of the children pay a small sum weekly; the other, those which are wholly free of expence; and these latter are in the hands of the Brothers of Christian Doctrine and the Sisters of Charity. These schools are distributed pretty equally through the twelve arrondissements of the Seine; they educate about 7,000 children, at the expence of about 12 or 15 francs annually for each individual. Yet, with all these efforts to extend learning; and impart instruction, France is, perhaps, not equal in this respect to many other countries of Europe.

Besides these schools, there are others, founded by the charity of many private individuals, in which productive industry is joined to the usual routine of elementary instruction: it must not, however, be supposed, that music and drawing are taught in all the primary schools—by no means; but the French appear to have directed their attention very particularly of late years to the system of *instruction mutuelle*, and have succeeded in applying it to a greater variety of branches of education than in England, where it does not extend beyond reading, writing, and ciphering.

According to a report by M. Gélblé, in 1831, the total number of schools in France amounted to 50,796. In 1832 they had increased to 52,092; and among these were 1,205 *écoles mutuelles* for boys, and 129 for girls.

In the law upon the *instruction primaire*, promulgated on the 28th, June, 1833, there is no special mention of the girls' schools. Both the government and the chamber adjourned the considera-

tion of this part of primary instruction; and, until this vacuum be filled up, the committees of surveillance, instituted under the fourth article of the law, have no authority to exercise over the girls' schools at this moment existing, (1835), and the mistresses cannot enjoy those privileges which are enjoyed by the *maître*, nor the advantages of the saving fund attached to these schools.

The government in France is every thing, does every thing, superintends every thing. Perhaps there is no country in the world where the government has such claims upon men of talent and ingenuity, as in France. The government institutes schools for the higher departments of science, for the acquirement of knowledge of every description; it establishes institutions for the improvement of arts and manufactures, gives prizes to the successful artisan, constructs bridges, magnificent public edifices of every description, makes roads, excavates canals, works mines, &c. &c. &c. Individuals, or companies of men, rarely undertake those works which may be denominated purely national, and still more rarely is there any one individual who ventures on any great undertaking *pour l'amour de sa patrie*. The great difference between the French and English characters appear to rest much upon this point. England founds her greatness upon the exertions of enterprising individuals. The Englishman, if not actuated by more patriotic motives, undertakes more patriotic works: the government of England does little more than occasionally to propose them, or point out their utility. This difference of character may arise from two causes; first and foremost, the cheapness of living in France. This is an encouragement to young men having small independent incomes, to be contented with that income. The love of pleasure, the love of ease, is more powerful in the breast of the Frenchman than in that of the Englishman; and in no country under heaven is pleasure so cheap, or so varied, as in Paris. Many young men, of the above description, are content to live in a mean lodging, taking all their meals at a restaurateur's, lounging in coffee-houses, and sauntering in the numerous fine gardens with which Paris abounds, until *l'heure du spectacle*. But it is not the man of pleasure alone who can find amusement and gratification in Paris; to the man of genius, of science, the artist, the philosopher, the student, equal facilities are afforded for their several pursuits and pleasures. Every institution is open to them, because they are

in the hands of the government; they are national property, and consequently belong to every individual in France; they are *common property*, individual property, and therefore there is no fear they should be injured, for no man wantonly destroys his own property: besides which, there are always *gens-d'armes* in the ~~land~~ *land*, who keep order; and very little ceremony would be used towards any one who should misconduct himself, or abuse the boundless gratification thus afforded to him. The second, and more powerful reason, may be the want of that large floating capital, those immense dormant funds of wealth, which are ready at a few minutes' notice for the undertaking of great enterprises in England.

Could the benefits which have arisen to the French people from the great and fearful revolution, which overturned the monarchy, and levelled every ancient institution of the country, obliterate the sanguinary means which were employed to produce them, the contemplation of France, even now, when she still evinces, that though the earthquake has ceased to overturn, yet that it occasionally shakes some part of her present constitution, must be accompanied with gratifying reflections. And let us anticipate the day when future historians of great and powerful France, philosophising on the fearful and wonderful events of these our days, will have cause to say:—“*But these awful times have passed away, like the dark and spent thunder-cloud; the elements of political strife are hushed in peace; the sunshine of tranquillity gilds our happy homes, while religion, liberty, and the social virtues, stand forth as the natural guardians of such dear-bought treasures, such inestimable blessings.*” But these must be the fruit of experience; they must be attained, not by tumultuous assemblages; not by personal abuse in the house of legislature; not by the display of intemperate passion; not by that unyielding pertinacity of opinion, which is founded upon mistaken feelings of pride, and which insists that what has once been proposed or asserted, must be maintained merely *because it has been proposed and asserted*; not because it is in itself just and right. Until man become infallible, where is the mortal that can be so bold as to maintain that his opinions are perfect—are beyond amendment? Wise men are open to conviction: fools alone despise it. The following paragraph, from the *Times*, newspaper, of 5th of Oct. (while this sheet was under revision), is so apt to

the subject, so just, so beautifully descriptive of the English constitution, and the veneration in which it is still held, by those who have the happiness to live under its influence, that the author trusts she will be pardoned its insertion, as not very irrelevant to the subject. It forms a part of the observations of the Editor, on the happy termination of the dispute between the Lords and Commons on the Municipal Reform Bill. (1835.)

“Nor can we let the occasion pass without calling to public notice for an instant the admirable wisdom with which the usages and regulations of our legislative bodies, whether as regards their separate transactions, or their intercourse with, and operation upon, each other, have been contrived by our cautious and clear-sighted ancestors, for the avoidance of precipitancy, the defeat of passion, and the eventual triumph of reason and judgment over all the obstacles to sound legislation, interposed by prejudice, impetuosity, and partial and one-sided views of public questions—the repeated readings, the committals, the recommittals, the conferences, the successive opportunities thus afforded for considering measures, both in principle and detail, under every imaginable shape and aspect; for men of practice, men of theory, men with personal and conflicting interests, on all sides to set the flail to work vigorously and skilfully, to thrash out the substance from the husk, and ascertain, by frequent examinations, what ought to be kept, and what to be delivered over to the winds;—these are portions of our constitutional machinery, little thought of in ordinary times, but at all times of inestimable value, and never susceptible of an illustration more gratifying, or more striking, than that which they have received from the complex discussions, and various intercommunications between the houses, to which this most important and most beneficial bill has given rise, while from them we trust, and are conscientiously satisfied, it has gained the most solid improvements.” But to return from this digression.

By documents furnished by the Prefecture of Paris, in 1826, the mean expenditure of every resident in Paris amounted to 1,021 francs, about £42. 10s. 10d. per annum. But later documents affirm, that an artisan, a carpenter, for instance, now (1835) expends 728 fr., 50 cent., annually, about £30., for his food, lodging, and washing, which appears to be about the mean expenditure for every individual artisan of the French capital.

The following table will explain this more clearly.

Contributions and general expences, upon an average, for each individual	136 fr. 5 c.
Rent of the houses in Paris	91 20
Repairs of houses	22 80
Food	352 43
Clothes	70 48
Firing	48 34
Lights	19 84
Washing	36 0
Repairing furniture	68 2
Education of children	33 75
Domestics	46 0
Forage and care of horses	29 42
Carriages and harness	3 46
Hire of carriages, for moving from one part of Paris to the other	11 55
Consumption of tobacco and snuff	6 51
Baths	3 20
Charitable donations	11 42
New year's gifts	1 72
Theatres	7 9
Confinements (<i>Accouchements</i>)	1 0
Nurses	3 77
Doctors and surgeons	11 56
Subscription to the newspapers	5 43
Total	1,021 4

This table does not however give, perhaps, a correct idea of the expences of any one individual, whose inclination may induce him to spend according to his means, twice, thrice, or a hundred times more than the sum here mentioned. This appears an enormous sum for the inhabitants individually of Paris, but it is from a French estimate, and, therefore, if overcharged, the mistake must rest with M. Hugo, who, no doubt, gives it from authority.

The expence of erecting a house in Paris, (drawn from the same source of information,) of three square stories high, with wainscotted chambers in the roof, four windows in each story,

and rated at thirty-two windows and door, amounts to 80,000 francs, at the following rate:—

360 square feet of land, 300 fr. each	18,000
Wall of enclosure and court	2,000
Materials and labour; viz., mason, 28,000 fr.; carpenter, 11,000 fr.; joiner, 9,000 fr.; locksmith, 6,000 fr.; painter and roofer, 2,500 fr.; plumber, 1,500 fr.; stone-mason, 1000 fr.; glazier, 500 fr.; pavior, 500 fr.	60,000
The rent of this house would be	5,700 fr.
Deduct for repairs and certain taxes	1,700
Clear profit, at the rate of 5 per cent.	4,000 fr.

There is but little encouragement to building good substantial houses in Paris, because the lease of the ground-rent is of short duration.

The marriages in Paris, in 1831, amounted to 6,654

Births—boys, 15,116; girls, 14,414 29,530

10,378 of these were illegitimate.

Deaths 25,711

The mean number of suicides in Paris, is 300

It is a curious fact, that in the 9,000 *procès verbaux*, verbal process, or written evidence, which have taken place in Paris, from 1796 to 1830, that *premeditated* suicide generally happened during the night, a short time before the dawn of day; that accidental suicide, arising from the effect of immediate causes, took place in the day time.

MARRIAGE in France is a civil contract. All parties having agreed that a marriage shall take place, a notary is sent for, who draws up the deeds; and these being signed, the intended bride and bridegroom repair to the mayor, where the civil contract is entered and registered. After this ceremony the parties repair to the church, where the religious rites are generally performed; but this is not necessary in order to give the marriage validity; the binding matrimonial contract is completed at the mayoralty. When a Catholic and Protestant marry, the children are Catholic by the law of the land.

No marriage can take place in France without the written sanction of paternal authority; to marry without this, which cannot be done under the age of twenty-five years, requires even

then legal proceedings and formalities, which would expose the young lady to much disagreeable animadversion. A run-away match for love is never heard of. Indeed, marriages in France are settled and arranged by the parents, and in some instances against the inclination of the parties; at any rate, young ladies are well aware that they cannot choose for themselves; and, as they marry young most generally, that which would be considered as a hardship in some countries, is looked upon as a matter of course. A *marriage de convenance* is usual, and therefore expected. Formerly, when nunneries abounded, almost every young lady was educated in one of these strictly disciplined establishments, and she left it for the first time, not unfrequently, to be married to a gentleman whom she had, perhaps, seen once or twice at the grate of her convent, and who was introduced as her future husband; and from this system of *marriages de convenance* arises, perhaps, the seclusion in which young ladies live in France until they are married. The French wonder much at young ladies in England being permitted to walk out without a gentleman to protect them. A *demoiselle*, (single lady,) whatever her age, unless absolutely a septuagenary, never is seen alone in the streets of France. Whether this bespeaks a greater degree of propriety, or moral decorum, in the French ladies, than in the English, perhaps the following question, put by the narrator of these pages to a young lady, and the reply of the latter, will, in some degree, elucidate—"But why may not you and your sister walk without a gentleman?" "*Eh mais, ma chère, c'est que les messieurs Français sont plus galants que les messieurs Anglais.*" The morality of Englishmen is then the safeguard of Englishwomen, who, from this circumstance, enjoy more rational liberty than any other women under the sun.

By a law passed by Buonaparte, and which still continues in force, the name of every child must be inscribed at the municipality twenty-four hours after it be born. The child is conveyed thither by the father, midwife, nurse, and two witnesses.

So soon as a person be dead, information must be given to the Mayor of the Commune, who immediately dispatches a medical man to ascertain the cause of his death, and the names of the physicians and apothecary who attended him. In Paris, every

* Formerly in England this was customary; the person was called a *searcher*, and it is possible the law may be still in force, though neglected.

me must be conveyed in a hearse to be buried; in other towns they may, as in England, be carried on men's shoulders. For those who cannot afford to hire a hearse, one is provided, at a small sum, by the government, or, if circumstances demand it, without paying any thing at all. For this purpose there is a government establishment, called *Pompes Funebres*.

RELIGION.

The *Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman religion*, is professed by the majority of Frenchmen. It is under the jurisdiction of fourteen archbishops, and sixty-six bishops.

*Archbishops.**Suffragan Bishops.*

Paris	{ Chartres, Meaux, Orléans, Blois, Versailles, Arras, and Cambrai.
Lyon	{ Autun, Langres, Dijon, Saint Claude, and Grenoble.
Rouen	Bayeux, Evreux, Séez, and Coutances.
Sens	Troyes, Nevers, and Moulins.
Reims	{ Soissons, Chalons-sur-Marne, Beauvais, and Amiens.
Tours	{ Mans, Angers, Rennes, Nantes, Vannes, Quimper, and Saint Brieux.
Bourges	{ Clermont, Limoges, Puy, Tulle, and Saint Flour.
Alby	Rhodes, Cahors, Mendez, and Perpignan.
Bordeaux	{ Agen, Angoulême, Poitiers, Luçon, Périgueux, and La Rochelle.
Auch	Tarbes, Aire, and Bayonne.
Toulouse	Montauban, Pamiers, and Carcassonne.
Arles	Marseilles, Fréjus, Gap, Digne, and Ajaccio.
Besançon	{ Metz, Strasbourg, Verdun, Belley, Saint Dié, and Nancy.
Avignon	Nîmes, Valence, Viviers, and Montpellier.

The lands of the French clergy were all confiscated at the revolution, and they are now remunerated for their apostolic labours by the government. In 1829, the expences for "Ecclesiastical affairs and clergy," amounted to 32,645,000 francs. This included a provision for the Protestants of the reformed church, (that of the confession of Augsburg,) and those of the Lutheran church. In 1860 a decree was passed for giving salaries to the teachers of the Jewish tenets, at which period Catholicism ceased to be denominated the "religion of the state."

The Wesleyan methodists occupy seven stations in France, on which are employed ten missionaries, assisted by about twenty local preachers and subordinate agents. About seven schools have also been established by these missionaries.

SECTION IV.

PROGRESS OF SOCIETY AND LITERATURE.

FRANCE has been long distinguished among the nations of Europe for her literature, even so far back as the time of the Romans. The Druids were, however, the first theologians, legislators, rhetoricians, and poets of France. These men, whose religion nearly equalled in barbarity that of the ancient Mexicans, were divided into three classes; viz., the Druids, who cultivated physiology, moral philosophy, and theology. The Bards were poets and musicians, of whom some were satyrists, some encomiasts. The Ovates sacrificed, divined, and contemplated the nature of things. They had also priestesses, who presided at the sacrifices of human victims. No trace is to be found of their learning, for they never committed any thing to writing, lest their sciences and mysteries should be revealed to the laity and vulgar, whom it was their interest and pleasure to keep in a certain degree of ignorance; for although *schoolmasters*, they only communicated just so much knowledge as was calculated to increase the respect and veneration of their disciples for their teachers. The settlement of a colony of Greeks at Marseilles produced a new era in the literature of the south of France. Greek and Latin, and the Gaulish language, were studied and spoken, the two former in all their purity, in its celebrated academy; hence its Grecian name of Triglote, and its Latin one of Trilingua. Tacitus calls it, "The seat and mistress of study and the sciences." The Druids gave their instructions in the bosom of woods and forests. The Marseillois assembled their pupils in halls and beautiful buildings. Pythias and Eumenides, or Eudimenes, who were both natives of Marseilles, had given to the world their dissertations upon foreign countries, before Livius Andronicus, Nevius, and Eunius, the first Romans who published their works, had appeared publicly as literary men. It was L. Plotius, a Lyonese, who first taught rhetoric at Rome. A number of men, of Gaulish extraction, subsequently figured at the Roman bar and in the schools. In the reign of Tiberius, the orator,

Domitius Afer, of Nîmes; the rhetorician, Clodius Quirinales, of Arles; Statius Ursulus, of Toulouse; Castor, of Marseilles; Oscanus Oscius, of Provence, shone as orators and rhetoricians in the Roman capital. From the time of Nero until the extinction of the family of the Cæsars, under Trajan, the Roman bar was indebted for its finest orators to Gaul.

GRAMMARIANS.—Marcus Anthony Grifphon, a celebrated Latin grammarian, was a Gaul. He was master to Julius Cæsar, Cicero, and several other distinguished Romans; and Valerius Caton, at the same distant period, taught publicly at Rome the grammar of the Latin tongue.

POETS.—With regard to poets during these early ages, Gaul does not appear to have abounded, as to number, or excelled, as to genius. The names of Terentius Varro, contemporary of Cicero; Petronius, in the time of Claudius and Nero; and Sennius Augurinus, are mentioned as men of poetic talents; the latter, as being highly spoken of by Pliny the younger. Many of the early ecclesiastics were likewise extolled as poets; for example, Aisone de Bordeaux, Saint Paulin, Saint Prosper, and Sidonius Apollinaris.

HISTORIANS.—The works of the only historian mentioned at this period, are those of Trogus Pompeius, abridged by Justin.

PHILOSOPHERS AND MATHEMATICIANS.—Erathones, Lydanus, and two Provençal brothers, named Felon and Gyorée, who lived in the time of Cæsar, were distinguished mathematicians, particularly in astronomy and marine tactics. But among all the Gaulish philosophers, no one is more celebrated than Favorin, of Arles, who was more learned than the Emperor Aurelian, and yet had the happiness to live under his protection. He was a rhetorician, geometrician, and astrologer: he also taught at Athens: he was likewise an historian of some merit.

PHYSICIANS.—Pliny mentions that Crinas was a professor of medicine, of celebrity, at Marseille, under the Emperor Claudius; and above them all was one Demosthenes, mentioned in the works of Aëtius, of Armide.

LAWYERS.—The Gauls were renowned as lawyers, and, in the reign of Domitian, Artæus, of Narbonne, was in high repute, and the friend of Martial to boot. Menecrates and Chomolée were also men of distinguished legal talent.

THEOLOGICALS.—In the early ages of Christianity the Gaulish church abounded with learned doctors and theologians: among

these, Saint Irenæus, of Lyon, in the time of Marcus Aurelius and Commodus; Saint Hilary, of Poitiers; and Saint Ambrose, were conspicuous. These days of literary splendour were, however, obscured by the decline and fall of the western Roman empire. But the champions of the church never failed—St. Prosper, St. Hilary of Arles, St. Honorius of Marseille, Sidoine, Apollonaris, &c. were a host in themselves.

The gradual establishment of the feudal system, which followed the inroads of the *barbarous nations*, as the Greeks and Romans were accustomed to call all nations but their own, threw into the back ground all learned institutions; the barbarians conceiving learning to be incompatible with the exercise of the more energetic, more spirit-stirring pursuit of war and conquest. “But there is an education of mind distinct from the literary, which is gradually imparted by the contingencies of active life. In this, which is always the education of the largest portion of mankind, the Gauls were never deficient.”* The Barbarians, or Nomades, as they should be more properly designated, in their forest habitations, in their predatory expeditions, in their rude councils and national wars, displayed great natural capacity and intellectual activity; the sole direction of these powers being subsequently directed to foreign conquest, their effect was fatal to the more civilized and degenerate remains of the Roman empire, which fell before their victorious arms. The facility, the rapidity of their conquests, impressed them with lofty ideas of their own superiority, and, in the wantonness of power, the stately heathen temple, the christian sanctuary, equally objects of their contempt, were raised to the ground, or converted to profane uses: yet, even in these days of war and rapine, the members of the church felt and foresaw that their influence would finally triumph over the barbarous policy of the heathen; and they judged wisely, for they alone, in these days of anarchy, possessed that moral superiority which necessarily gives rise to, and establishes, power: the enslavers became, in the sequel, the enslaved † The clergy were, at the period in question, shining

* Sharon Turner's Anglo Saxons.

† In the course of time their power assumed a temporal character, in every sense of the word; for many of the bishops, abbots, and even inferior clerical clerks, possessed fiefs of a military nature, and it was not unusual to see a mitred prelate with a sword in that hand which should only have been extended in the act of benediction; and by a strange

lights in the chaos that surrounded them; they were encircled by the fascination of their sacred character; their science, their knowledge, which was confined to that of some of the Roman laws, and their historical recollections of late events, but, above all, their experience, and the few maxims of government of which they were masters, gave to the bishops a superiority which awed even the fierce barbarian, whose principles of government extended no further than the use of his sword, and the preservation of his individual liberty.* Attila himself was accompanied as far as the Rhine by a bishop, on his return to his native country.† Yet many a year, many an age passed away, before the minds of these unpolished and restless warriors were directed to the peaceful pursuits of life; and during these unsettled times, civilization fled from the abodes of men, and learning hid itself in the cloister, where monkish legends and history, not unfrequently miscoloured by the misrepresentation of those, who, secluded in their cells, could give but traditionary accounts of events, and who were, consequently, totally unable to understand the motives of men, in whose transactions they not only took no decided part, but of whose deeds they only heard the distant murmur. Such men were consequently ill calculated to write history, which, deprived of her fair attendant, philosophy, degenerates into a mere chronicle of facts: but their literary relics are, nevertheless, invaluable, as the resources from which the enlightened mind finds ample scope for reflection, and the historian a record of events, which would have been otherwise lost to posterity. Grammarians, orators, legislators, philosophers, and mathematicians, had disappeared; but time produced its usual effects on the conquered and the conqueror in Gaul, as well as elsewhere. From the union of the Gauls and Franks sprang a new people, the ancestors of the present French nation, a distinct race from the two former, yet partaking of the qualities of their double original stock. Latin had been, in the learned ages al-

transformation of property and dignity, princes eventually conferred ecclesiastical benefices upon their bravest warriors.

* Although not a literal translation, the author is indebted for these observations to a work entitled, *Histoire Politique de l'Eglise*. M. Viladeau. Paris, 1839.

† All the bishops had originally the title of *Pape*, but it was in the fourth century, after a long struggle for this pre-eminence, conferred on the Bishop of Rome alone.

luded to, the colloquial language in the universities, and among the higher ranks of society; but, at the commencement of the sixth century, it had degenerated into a dialect, called *Rustique*, a sort of Patois Latin. Pure Latin consequently became a study as a foreign language; and the writings of this period present a strange medley of Gaulish and German words latinised, by their terminations. In the reign of Charlemagne, letters and learning revived, and Louis le Debonnaire and *Charles le Chauve* followed his example, and patronized literature. The discovery of the *Pandects of Justinian*, at Amalphi, in Italy, somewhere about the twelfth or thirteenth century, gave a new stimulus to the human mind; they engrossed the attention of the learned, and men found a new road to eminence and fame in the study of the law. But this dawning of literary light, from the darkness of night, cannot be said to have advanced farther than *morning* in the day of literature, until the reign of Louis XII., at which period it gradually went on increasing, till, at last, it burst in noon-tide splendour in the brilliant galaxy of talent which displayed itself in the reign of Louis XIV. Mankind had, however, made vast strides to civilization before that period.

The spirit of fanaticism which led to the wild and romantic expeditions of the Crusades, had produced an effect little expected by Peter the Hermit and Saint Bernard. They had only in view the rescue of the Holy City from the hands of the hated infidels, whom they represented in the most delusive colours.* But those infidels were, at that period, rich in the learning of the East; they were men of science, excellent husbandmen, romantic in all their enterprizes, brave and gallant in time of war distinguished by their persevering industry in commerce, and the prosecution of all those arts which contribute to the comfort of human life, in that of peace. The Crusaders expected to encounter monsters, scarcely bearing the human form, savage in their nature, and refined in their cruelty. They were surprised to find the infidels were men, handsome in their persons, gallant in their bearing,

* But this same spell over the human mind has not long been withdrawn from the eyes and minds of some of our contemporaries. Will it be believed, that, in one of the southern states of South America, not thirty years ago, Christians were taught, that Protestants were born with horns and tails, and that these obnoxious appendages were carefully removed, while they were in a state of infancy! But the schoolmaster is abroad.

glittering in all the gorgeous panoply of war, and animated by a spirit of fanatic bravery, which rendered them worthy to encounter the bravest knight of Christendom. The Greek empire, at this period, likewise retained some vestiges of its former splendour; and when the Christians returned to their distant homes, they carried with them the desire to enjoy some of those luxuries in which they had revelled in the East. The spirit of invention was consequently roused, the arts revived, science issued from the cloister, and assisted in the perfection of those manufactures to which the newly-formed wants of man had given rise. Slow, indeed, was the advance to civilization, it is true; but, nevertheless, it went on progressing.

The troubadours, who had visited the Holy Land, who were present at tilts and tournaments, and were held in great honour, hovered about the court, or wandered through the country, reciting their marvellous legends of knights, and sorcerers, and fair and captive ladies, &c. &c., were every where welcomed and caressed. The compositions of these writers of poesy and romance, in which the troubadours of Provence particularly excelled, long continued in favour with the gay people of France. The *Romance of the Rose* is still extant. They were followed by prose writers, on the same subject, whose pages equally abound in dwarfs and giants, sorcerers, &c. &c. These writers were followed by men of abstruse and deep learning, who did not, however, much benefit mankind by their studies. In some of the higher ranks of literature, that of *history* for one, France did not abound until later times, and this circumstance may arise from the arbitrary power of its ancient sovereigns. Few persons would venture to give the detail of, or record those events, which would sound harsh and grating upon the ears of him who could appoint the writer a snug dwelling in the dungeons of the Bastille, or elsewhere, at his pleasure: and even now, *memoires* are more abundant than absolute history. The names of the Sieur de Joinville, Philippe de Comines, Brantome, Juvenal des Ursins, Duhaillan, Mezerai, Belleforet, Chalier, Du Clos, John de Troyes, and Davila de Thou, &c., found the basis of history until the time of Francis I. From this period the writers of France are numerous upon most subjects. Her divines and theological writers have greatly distinguished themselves, and her mathematicians rank highly among the learned of Europe, as well as her naturalists, among whom Buffon and Cuvier stand unrivalled. Her poets,

satiric, lyric, dramatic, and pastoral, are likewise numerous, and her composers of songs and fable are much admired. The only French poem which has any claims to the title of epic, is the *Henriade*, of Voltaire. Her theatre was formerly founded upon the stately models of Greece, but the dramatists of the present day have shaken off all the trammels of *unity*; they revel in licentious freedom; her dramas vie with each other in exciting horror, for the more horrible (not awful; there is a difference between the awful and terrible, and the horrible,) the more they are approved. M. de la Vigne's tragedies are an exception, they are regular compositions. M. M. de Chateaubriand, Delille, De la Martine, Delavigne, a M. Dumas, Victor Hugó, Maheau, &c. &c., are amongst her most distinguished writers of the present day. Cheap penny magazines, old records and legends, (collected from the *vieux chroniques*, to which every one has access,) these, worked into romances, stories, &c. &c., constitute the light reading of the day. The French mind has not yet subsided into a calm sufficiently powerful to produce profound, dispassionate reflection; the *romantique* is the order of the day; consequently, any thing like solid composition must be at a stand still. The names of most of the remarkable men of France, who have distinguished themselves, will be mentioned in the description of the departments in which they were born.

SECTION V.

MANUFACTURES OF FRANCE.

THE principal manufactures of France consist of cambrics, draperies, pier-glasses, cotton manufactories, laces, silks,* tapes-

* Mulberry Trees.—If the growth of France in raw silk be estimated at 3,000,000 pounds, the quantity of cocoons may be estimated at about 26,000,000 pounds. It is calculated that sixteen pounds of mulberry leaves will be consumed for the production of one pound of cocoons, so that the annual produce of France must be 56,000,000 pounds of leaves; and giving to each tree an average annual produce of ten pounds, the number of mulberry trees must be above 5,700,000. One ounce of eggs will, on an average, produce 100 pounds of cocoons. An ounce of eggs is calculated to give, at least, 30,000 worms. The quantity of silk-worms annually reared in France cannot, therefore, be less than 10,800,000,000.—*Dr. Bowring's Report.*—TIMES.

tries, carpets, stationery, hardware, porcelain, jewellery, &c. &c. The manufacture of sugar from beet-root, as a discovery of modern times, and one so successful, as to provide sugar sufficient for the home consumption of France, claims particular notice, as well as the progressive use, and increasing consumption of what is now deemed a necessary article.

In the time of Henry IV. of France, sugar was such a rarity as to be sold by the ounce in the apothecaries' shops. In 1700 the total consumption of sugar amounted to 2,000,000 of pounds weight; the population was then calculated at 16,000,000 souls. In 1789 the consumption was increased to 32,000,000; but the revolutionary wars, and the high taxes put upon foreign sugars, again reduced it to 14,000,000, which, to a population of 44,000,000 of souls, gave three ounces only to each individual, and its value was five francs a pound. When peace was restored, the following was the gradual increase of the consumption of sugar.

	Killogrammes.	Price.
1815	16,000,000	3 f. 60 c. per pound.
1816	24,000,000	3 60
1818	36,000,000	3 20
1820	48,000,000	2 80
1822	55,000,000	2 . 80
1826	61,000,000	2 40
1829	68,000,000	2 40
1831	80,000,000	2 10

During the late continental war, when Buonaparte having, by his decrees, forbidden the importation into France of every thing English, whether in the form of raw material, or in a manufactured state, several clever men conceived the project of extracting sugar from beet-root; and, notwithstanding the attacks of the ignorant, the smiles of the supercilious, and the ridicule of the would-be-learned, who will never learn from experience, the mother of invention, they persevered, and were rewarded by that success which most generally accompanies perseverance in a good cause. Large tracts of land, particularly in the north of France, are now appropriated to the culture of this wholesome root, from which sugar is extracted, and sold for twenty sols per pound, instead of five francs, which was its price during the war already mentioned. The fabrication of sugar from beet-root is simple.

The roots are collected in autumn, when they are immediately bruised between two wheels, which reduces them to a stringy pulp. This pulp is then put into sacks, which are submitted to a powerful pressure. The juice is received into coppers, in which it is then gradually boiled, until it is well clarified, and assumes the consistence of a syrup; this quickly crystallizes, and converts itself into a *cassonade*, brown sugar, which is easily refined. This sugar is as fine as that produced by the sugar-cane; it is even whiter, and there would be some difficulty in distinguishing it from foreign sugar, but that it is less porous.

The French colonies of Guyane, Guadeloupe, and Martinique, export considerable quantities of sugar annually,—and, let England look to it,—tea has been introduced successfully into the former, and Chinese tea planters and gatherers have been persuaded to quit their country, and superintend the culture of this valuable vegetation. In 1833, after an essay of thirteen years' culture, Cayenne sent to France 442 kilog. of tea, of an excellent quality. This is but a small quantity, but the Mississippi is but a streamlet at its rise. English workmen are equally persuaded to go to France by the lure of large offers. Let them inquire how long those tempting baits will last, and whether, so soon as they have communicated as much information as may be necessary for their employers to proceed without their assistance, they may not be sent back again to look for work in England. What *has happened* may happen again!

Tobacco is a monopoly in the hands of the government. It is cultivated, by permission, in the departments of *Bas Rhin*, *Bouches du Rhone*, *Ile et Vilain*, *Lot et Garonne*, *Nord*, *Fas de Calais*, *Var*, and *Lot*, and even the quantity grown is limited by the government. In fact, the French government may be said to be planters, and wholesale and retail dealers of this plant. The culture of tobacco is by no means profitable to the growers at all times; for if the quality be not equal to the expectations of the government, it is thrown upon their hands. The manufacture of snuff is likewise in the hand of the government.

It was not until the years 1814, 1815, that the fabrication of paper by machines was introduced into France. The machinery for this purpose is made in England. *M. Montgolfier aîné* has a machine at *Saint Maur*, near *Paris*, which has been pre-eminently successful. The details of this machine are too nu-

merous and complex for description, without an accompanying engraving, but the results are these,—that, instead of *sheets* of paper, an immense roll is produced, the unfolded length of which depends upon the pleasure of the manufacturer. This roll is cut into sheets, of equal length, by an ingenious machine, invented by Mr. Edward Cooper, of London. Two minutes is sufficient to transform the *pulp* into a paper of perfect substance. This pulp flows along the *metallic cloth*, upon which it assumes consistency, at so quick a rate as to make twenty-three square feet of paper in a minute.

The importation of the Cashmere goat into France has greatly contributed to the improvement of the shawls and finer articles of manufacture, which were formerly produced from wool only; and the breed of Merino sheep has, in equal proportion, benefited all the woollen manufactures, the finer cloths of which are exceedingly beautiful. The looking-glasses of France are unrivalled, except by those of Venice. Her silks are well known for the beauty of their colour, and the richness of their texture; and this description of silks is cheaper, in proportion as to their quality, than those of England; but her lighter silks, of Gros-de-Naples, are, on the other hand, vastly inferior in quality to those of England, proportionally to their price.

France has always been a professed imitator of ancient Athens; her theatre, though now set at liberty, from time, and place, and unity, and rioting in this freedom, was formerly constructed upon the plan of the great masters of dramatic poetry, the Grecians. Athens piqued herself upon being the most polished of the states of Greece; and M. Villedieu has the presumption, in these enlightened days, to pronounce France at the head of European civilization. This being the case, *modesty*, at least, cannot be included among the virtues of civilization. Paris is to Frenchmen what Athens was to Attica, and Attica to Greece, the centre of every thing. Paris is, in fact, France: her buildings, her public edifices, like those of Athens, are magnificent; and her patronage of great men is, like that of the Athenians, magnificent also; like that of the Athenians, it is unstable, fickle, vacillating, and mutable.

As connected with the manufactures of France, *Jaques Cœur* and *Bernard Palissy* are two examples worth recording, not only as prominent examples of the truth of the above assertion, but as

becoming an honourable testimony to these two individuals, to whom France is more indebted than to many of her heroes and statesmen, whose names glitter in the heroic page, but of whose deeds no substantial benefit remains. Not so the deeds of these two great men, who, by their genius, integrity, and industry, have conferred benefits upon France, which shall be, while France exists, of inestimable value to their country, at whose hands they experienced such cruel persecution.

Jaques Cœur may be considered the founder of French commerce. In his early youth he was employed in the coining of money. The good education he had received, and the ability he displayed in his commercial affairs, introduced him to the notice of Charles VII., who appointed him master of the mint at *Bourges*; and subsequently he was nominated to the management of the finances of France, under the modest title of *Argentier*.

Genoa and Venice were astonished to see a private individual rivalling them in commerce, for his vessels were seen in every sea and port, where they formerly were unrivalled: as was naturally to be expected, he shortly amassed an immense fortune; and, in 1443, he constructed a house at *Bourges*, considered at that time, the most beautiful in the kingdom. In 1682, it was purchased by the Mayor and burghers for an *Hotel de Ville* and palace of justice, which it still continues to be. The chapel was placed over the principal portal, on each side of which was constructed a small closet, containing a fire-place and small window; here *Jaques Cœur* and his wife heard mass; the roof of this chapel was painted between the arches, with coloured figures, and ornamented with the richest gothic fret-work. Upon a stone balustrade leading to the belfry of the clock, the following device is engraven, and ornamented with hearts and shells:—"À cœur vaillant rien d'impossible."

His wealth was so great, that, in 1448, he lent Charles VII. 200,000 golden crowns, in order to enable him to make the conquest of *Normandy*; besides which, he supported four armies during the whole of the war. As a reward for these services he was ennobled, and he then bought the lands of *Tonci*, *Péreuse*, and *St. Farquieu*; this latter contained twenty-two parishes. When the King entered *Rouen*, *Jaques Cœur* marched by the side of the beautiful *Du Nois*, wearing the same tunic and arms as that *preux Chevalier*. He was subsequently sent as ambas-

sador to *Lausanne*; but his enemies, profiting by his absence, accused him of having poisoned Agnes Sorel, whose executor he had been appointed. On his return home he had some difficulty to prove his innocence, which he, however, finally accomplished. His enemies, however, were unremitting in their attempts to ruin this worthy man; they accused him of sending money out of the kingdom, of selling arms to the Musselmén, of sending back a Christian slave who had escaped from his master, and many other such false accusations were brought against him. A commission was appointed to try him, at the head of which was *Antoine de Chabannes, Comte de Dammartin*, his mortal enemy. *Jaques Cœur* was found guilty, and condemned to death on the 19th of May, 1453; but the King, in consideration of certain services, and at the recommendation of the Pope, commuted the sentence to the fine of 400,000 crowns, the confiscation of his estates, perpetual banishment from the kingdom, and the doing penance before the church! Thus, Charles VII., whom history has surnamed the *Victorious*, because *Jean of Arc* lent him her sword, and *Jaques Cœur* his money, permitted the one to be burned at *Rouen*, and the other to be sacrificed to the malignant passions of the nobles of his court.

Thus reduced to misery, and consigned to banishment, he was, however, permitted to find an asylum in the convent of *Beaucaire*, in *Languedoc*, from whence he escaped by means of *Jean Duville*, one of his factors, who had married his niece. His clerks, to whom he had been a father, subscribed the sum of 60,000 crowns, with which he fled to Rome, where Pope Calistus III. gave him an asylum, and appointed him commander in chief of a fleet destined to act against the Turks. He fell sick traversing the Archipelago, and died in the isle of Chios, in 1455. He was not only the richest, but one of the best informed men of his time; he left several literary works behind him.

Louis XI. rescued his memory from reproach; and after a law-suit, which was not terminated until the reign of Charles VIII., his children were reinstated in their rights with regard to the lordships usurped by *Chabannes de Dammartin*. Charles VII. died at *Mehun-sur-Evre*, a short distance from *Bourges*, whither he had fled to protect himself from the supposed attempts of his son against his life by poison; and so strongly did

he believe this, that he refused food for the last eight days of his life, and thus died from starvation: all that remains of this castle is one ruined tower.

France is indebted for her delf ware, and perhaps her fine porcelain, to one *Bernard Palissy*, who was born in the year 1500, at Agen, where he employed himself in painting on glass; he also studied the arts of drawing, geometry, and surveying. He reaped, however, but small profits from these various pursuits; and his mind, naturally speculative, gave way to many idle suggestions, until a fortunate circumstance directed all his mental powers to the accomplishment of one object. An enamelled earthen cup, probably of Italian origin, fell into his hands: he immediately resolved on making one like it. He collected some earthenware fragments, which he carefully covered with compositions of his own inventions, these he tried at the neighbouring furnaces; year after year rolled on, and *Palissy* wasting, as it was then said, his time and substance in vain speculations, persevered in his plans, though oppressed by care, discouraged by repeated disappointments, scoffed at by the world, accused of sorcery, of coining false money; and, to crown all, persecuted at home by the complaints of his family. In the midst of all these misfortunes, his courage never forsook him. Twenty years elapsed in these fruitless endeavours, and when, at length, a dawning of success beamed on his delighted mind, the only workman he had, suddenly left him, and demanded his salary. *Palissy*, not being able to raise this sum, gave the man his clothes to make up the wages, and now his resources were exhausted. The palings of his garden, his furniture, the doors of his house, even the floors, were torn up to afford fuel for his furnace; but, at this moment of desolation, fort he smiled upon his efforts; his labours were crowned with success; and his enamelled and figured pottery assumed many beautiful forms under his plastic hand: he was appointed *Inventeur des rustiques figures, du roi*; he received the surname of *Bernard des Thuilleries*, where an apartment was assigned him by *Henry II.* His figures, his flat pieces of china, ornamented the palaces of kings. The *Chateau de Madrid*, in the *Bois de Boulogne*, constructed by order of Francis I., was much ornamented, externally, with this enamelled porcelain; and the great court of the *Chateau Saint-Germain-en-Laye* was ornamented with the same rich and costly

• material. Although a man of no education, he gave lectures at Paris, in the présence of the most celebrated physicians of his day, on natural history, more particularly upon the different qualities of earths and waters, rivers, fountains, and wells: he examined salt springs, mineral waters, mountains, stalactites, clays, metals, and fossils. Palissy had now reached the summit of his fortune, but he was again doomed to experience the uncertainty of all things here below; he was suddenly thrown into a prison, from which he would only have issued to march to execution, had not the *Connétable de Montmorency*, who was his protector, instantly presented a petition to the queen mother, who obtained from the King an order to set him at liberty: his crime was,—*Protestantism*.* He lived, however, honoured and respected by all his contemporaries, and died at the advanced age of ninety years. He left several scientific works behind him. He adopted the following line for his motto:—

“*Povreté empêche les bons esprits de parvenir.*”

It is to such men as these, that a grateful country should erect statues.

CANALS.—The canals of France are not numerous, but they are very important, and highly advantageous to her commercial interests; for, although she be intersected by many very fine rivers, and their tributary streams, yet there are districts which the industry of man has rendered it important to connect by means of art, to which nature, all provident as she is, offered no means of union, except by long, tedious, and laborious land carriage. Take, for instance, *Bordeaux*, towards the Atlantic, and the sea ports of Toulon, &c., on the *Mediterranean*; the commerce between these opposite points was formerly carried on by long, tedious, and expensive land carriage, or by the more circuitous route through the Straits of Gibraltar, along the western coast of Spain, into the Bay of Biscay. • The canal, there-

* When the French were driven from Naples by the assistance of the English, under Lord Nelson, “the insurgents of Arezzo, (Neapolitans adverse to the French party,) after having received the benedictions of the Cardinal Zondadari, publicly burnt sixteen Jews or Jewesses, and threw their children upon the pile, history proclaims with horror that Catholic intolerance is the most barbarous of all the passions.”—*Histoire Politique de l’Eglise par M. A. De Vidallan. Paris, 1833.*

fore, which has removed these disadvantages, first claims our attention in the inland navigation of France. As, however, France is indebted to an Italian of the name of *Andreossy*, for the great benefits she has derived from her canals, it may not be improper to observe, that *Italy*, during the time of the Republic, was intersected by many canals, and sluices for the purpose of irrigation; but, as the use of locks was unknown until the year A.D. 1481,* the canals fell into decay so soon as their immediate utility was interrupted by any of those casualties to which all sublunary things are liable: the banks gave way; and, in many instances, that which was highly beneficial when at first constructed, became a serious evil by the spreading of the waters and the constant formation of marshy land, where a fruitful and highly cultivated *terra firma* had formerly presented a rich and smiling landscape. So early as the time of *Charlemagne*, a junction of the *Rhine* and *Danube* was projected and commenced by that monarch; but its completion was interrupted by a thousand obstacles, which would quickly vanish before the science of modern times. The proposed line of junction was between the *Rednitz*, on the west, and the *Athmul*, on the east. The *Rednitz* falls into the *Mein*, in the environs of *Baybourg*, and the *Mein* into the *Rhine*, near *Mayence*. The *Athmul*, on the other side, throws itself into the *Danube* at *Kelheim*; thus, by means of these two rivers, the German Ocean and the Black Sea would have been brought into easy communication the one with the other. The canal between the *Rednitz* and the *Athmul* was to have been 300 feet wide and six miles long only. Yet the heavy rains, the falling in of the banks, &c., were the sufficient and principal causes of its failure.

CANAL DU MIDI.—*Francis I.* had the canal of *Languedoc* in contemplation, but the execution of this great undertaking was reserved for the brilliant reign of *Louis XIV.* In the year 1660, *Francois Andreossy*, an Italian, (and a progenitor of *General Andreossy*), drew up a plan for this great undertaking, which he presented to *M. Riquet*, the intimate friend of *Colbert*, minister to *Louis XIV.* The plan was by him presented to *M. Clerpille*, Commissary General of Fortifications, in 1666, but without mentioning the name of *Andreossy*; and from the cir-

* They were invented by two engineers of *Valverde*.

• circumstance of *Riquet* having transacted all the business, and his family having received all the profits, even to the time of the Revolution, this great undertaking was attributed solely to him. *General Andreossi* has, however, satisfactorily vindicated the memory of his ancestor, and proved him to have been the engineer who entirely superintended, and finally completed, this noble and masterly performance.

The Canal of *Languedoc*, called also the *Canal du Midi*, commences on the western side of *Toulouse*, round which it passes, in ascending, by eight locks; from thence it is carried along the southern side of the *Lers* to *Villefranche*, by thirteen more locks; and by five more, after crossing the *Lers*, it reaches the highest point of its elevation, viz., three miles and a half above the *Garonne*: it then passes *Castelnaudary*, near *Carcassonne*, *Tarbes*, *Olonzac*, the foot of the mountains of *Venienac*, the town of *Cassestang*, and round the point of the mountain *Ecurem*, from which it crosses the narrow ridge of *Malpas*, through a tunnel 184 yards long, and proceeds to the top of the chain by eight locks at *Fousseranne*; from this it traverses the river *Orb*, on the south side of *Beziers*; it then takes a southerly direction over the rivers *Libron* and *Herault*, round the lake *Thau*, through the eastern extremity of which it passes to the port of *Cette*, on the shore of the *Mediterranée*. The length of this canal, from the summit at *Naurouse* to the port of *Cette*, is 121½ English miles, and the fall 621½ feet; the total length of it is 148 English miles. The greatest works of this navigation are the reservoir at *Saint-Féreol*, which is four miles and a half in circumference, and is more than one hundred feet deep: it lies between two mountains, from which it receives many torrents, the waters of which are conveyed by an aqueduct to the basin of *Naurouse*; besides which, three bronze pipes convey the water thither when it is not high enough to spread itself through the aqueduct: the water rushes through these pipes with fury, and falls, with a terrific noise, into a vaulted aqueduct, which is called the *Vault of Hell*. The basins at *Castelnaudary*; the 102 locks, one of which is circular, ninety feet in diameter; the tunnel through the ridge of *Malpas*, which is five hundred feet long, ninety-two road bridges, and fifty-nine stream bridges; the artificial dykes cut through the lake of *Thau*, for the length of three miles and three-quarters; and the bed cut through a rock as hard as mar-

ble, in the plain of *Angelius*; these constitute the most striking operations of this celebrated *Canal du Midi*.

This canal was begun in April, 1667, and the first voyage made upon it was on the 30th of June, 1681. The vessels which navigate it are eighty-five feet long, from seventeen to nineteen feet broad, draw five feet four inches water, and carry 100 tons. They take from six to seven days to go from *Agde* to *Toulouse*, but they do not travel in the night. This traffic produces a million of francs annually; but nearly the half of this sum is consumed in every year's repair, and towards the end of the summer the canal is shut for two months for this purpose. The canal, when perfect, is sixty-four feet broad at the surface of the water, thirty-four at the bottom, and six feet five inches deep.

There are many canals connecting the *Rhone* with various other rivers; the principal of which appears to be that of *Arles*, which extends to *Port de Bac*. One, which has been commenced to unite the *Rhone* and the *Loire*, under the name of *Canal of Givers*, takes its beginning from *Givers*, ten miles and a half below *Lyons*, and proceeds to the shore of the *Gier*; but this undertaking is not yet completed. The *Canal of the Centre*, or of *Charleroi*, unites *Dijon* with *Chalons*, after a course of seventy-one English miles: it is thirty feet wide at the bottom, forty-eight at the water's surface, and five feet and a quarter deep; the descent, from the summit level to the *Soane*, is 400 feet, by fifty locks.

The canal of *Bourgogne* is intended to unite the *Soane* with the *Seine*. The *Seine* is a river of much importance in France, but it is navigable only to *Nogent*. There have been proposals for making canals, in various directions, in connection with the *Seine*, but none of them have been carried into effect, the expence being, it is said, much too great for the ends for which they were intended. The *Seine* is very incommodious at its mouth, from the shifting of sands. The river, from *Rouen* to *Paris*, is only navigable four months in the year: the great boats of *Rouen* are 181 feet long, they carry 350 tons, are drawn by twelve horses, and occupy eighteen to twenty days in going to *Paris*. Three locks have been constructed upon the *Seine*, viz. one at *Bont de l'Arche*, another at *Isore*, and a third at *Vernon*.

In *Picardy* there are two canals. That from the *Oise* to the

•*Somme*, named the canal of *Fere* or *Crozal*. A branch of this proceeds to *Amiens*; the other joins the *Somme* to the *Scheldt*, by *Crevecoeur*, *Cambray*, and *Bouchain*, to *Valenciennes*: to this has been added a third branch canal.

The canal of *Briare* was begun in 1610, and it was completed in 1642. It commences in the *Loire*, a mile from *Briare*, proceeds to *Guzonne*, *Rogny*, *Chatillon*, and *Montargis*, where it joins the river *Loing*, which falls into the *Seine*. The locks of this canal are the first which were constructed in *France*. Its navigation is, however, very imperfect, and the canal of *Orléans* has been made as its substitute, the navigation between *Briare* and *Orléans* being constantly impeded by the shallows of the *Loire*, even for three months at a time. The canal of *Orléans* begins a little below *Orléans*, and joins the *Loing* below *Montargis*: there is a prolongation of the canal of *Orléans* and *Briare* from *Montargis* to the *Seine*, at the small village of *Manoet*, near the city of *Moret*, being a distance of thirty-three miles.

RAIL ROADS.—Before the year 1825 there was not one rail-road in *France*; but, between that year and 1828, M. Beaunier, *Inspecteur Divisionnaire des Mines*, superintended the construction of one between *Saint Etienne*, in the county of *Nice*; and the *Loire*. This road is single; it is twenty-four kilometres* long; it cost 1,500,000 francs, not including 230,000 which were expended in the material for its construction.

M. M. *Seguine* then laid down one between *Saint Etienne* and *Lyon*. This is fifty-six kilometres long; it is of forged iron, and consists of two roads; it was opened in 1830; it cost altogether 16,000,000 of francs. This enormous amount arose from two circumstances: first, because 12,000 feet were cut through a solid rock, which alone absorbed 2,000,000; secondly, the purchase of the ground through which it passed cost 3,000,000; another and extra 1,000,000 was expended in purchasing chains, forty-two locomotive machines, and 1,000 wag-gons. A third rail-road is that constructed by M. M. *Mellet et Henri Andrieux*, at *Roanne*, extending from that place to *Lyon*. Several smaller ones have also been constructed by private individuals, for the benefit of their own manufactories.

Many grand roads are projected, and are most likely began

* A kilometre, 513 fathoms long.

by this time, in various parts of France; among them is one to connect *Paris* with *Havre*, and another to unite *Marseille* with *Lyon*.

FRENCH MEASURES AND WEIGHTS.

Measures of Length.

	English Inches.
Myriamètre.....equal	393708
Kilomètre.....	39370·8
Hectomètre.....	3937·08
Décamètre.....	393·708
Mètre, or base.....	39·3708
Decimètre, or palm.....	3·9370
Centimètre, or digit.....	·3937
Millimètre, or stroke.....	·0393

N.B. The *metre*, which is the ten millionth part of 90° of the meridian, is the unit of linear measure. It is equal to 513074 toise: hence a toise is equal 76·73513 English inches; and a French foot equal 12·789188 English inches.

An inch English measure.....equals	2·539954	centimètres.
A foot.....	3·0479449	décimètres.
A yard.....	0·91438348	mètre.
A pole or perch.....	5·02911	mètres.
A furlong.....	201·16437	mètres.
A mile.....	1609·3149	mètres.

N.B. The French foot is to the English, or the toise to the fathom, as 1·065777 to 1, or nearly as 16 to 15.

Square Measures.

	English square feet.
Hectare.....equal	107643·048
Decare.....	10764·304
Are.....	1076·430
Déciare.....	107·643
Centiare.....	10·764
Milliare.....	1·073

N.B. The *are*, which is a square decametre, is the unit of square measures, and it is equal to 0·98845 English rood. The hectare is equal to 2·47316 English acres.

Solid Measure.

	English cubic feet.
Myriastère.....equal	353168·076
Kilostère.....	35316·607
Hectostère.....	3531·660

English cubic feet

Decastère.....equal	353·166
Stère.....	35·316
Décistère.....	3·531
Centistère.....	·353
Millistère.....	·035

N.B. The *stère*, which is a cubic metre, is the unit of solid measures.

Measures of Capacity.

	English cubic inches.
Myrialitre.....equal	610270·98
Kilolitre.....	61027·098
Hectolitre.....	6102·709
Decalitre.....	610·270
Litre, or pint.....	61·027
Decilitre.....	6·102
Centilitre.....	·610
Millilitre.....	·061

WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND FIRE-ENGINES.

• N.B. The *litre*, which is a cubic decimetre, is the unit of the measures of capacity. The English gallon is $\cdot 4\frac{1}{2}$ litres; the bushel 36 $\cdot 7$ -10th litres; a sack is equal to the hectolitre; a quarter to nearly three of these; and a chaldron, to a little more than thirteen hectolitres.

Measures of Weight.

	English Troy grains.
Myriagramme .. equal	154330
Kilogramme	15433
Hectogramme	1543.3
Décagramme	154.33
Gramme	15.433
Décigramme	1.543
Centigramme .....	.154
Milligramme .....	.015

N.B. The *gramme*, which is the weight of a cubic centimetre of distilled water, at its maximum of density (39° of Fahrenheit) in vacuo, is the unit of measures of weight.

Agreeably to the Avoirdupois scale, the

Dram equal	1.7712	gramme
Ounce .	28.3384	grammes
Pound .	453.4149	kilogramme
Cwt. ...	50.78246	kilogrammes
Ton ...	1015.649	kilogrammes

Money.

	Grammes.	Eng. Tr. Grains
Franc ... equal	5	equal 77.165
Décime .....	.5	.. 7.716
Centime .....	.05	.. .771

N.B. Nine-tenths of the weight of these coins is pure silver, and one-tenth alloy.

Division of the Circle.

100 seconds equal	1 minute.
100 minutes equal	1 degree.
400 degrees equal	circumference of the circle.

There are, in France, 3,000 fire-engines, served by 55,000 fire-men, of whom 45,000 are armed and equipped. Upwards of 15,000 communes may receive succour, in case of fire, in a very few hours. The sum provided by the communal budgets for the expences of these establishments is 1,000,000 francs. In many places there is a great deficiency, which is supplied by voluntary contributions. The expences of keeping the engines in repair, and supplying the places of those which become worn out, are estimated at 30,000 francs annually. To the above engines there must be added a great many more belonging to large manufactories, and other establishments.—(*Paris Advertiser.*)

• According to the experiments detailed in the Appendix to the third Report of the Commissioners on Weights and Measures, the kilogramme should weigh 15440 grains; but in the experiments made at the London Mint, in 1820, the French pound was found to weigh only 7555 grains, and the actual standard kilogramme only 15433 grains, as above.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENTS.

“ Il y a dans Paris certaines rues deshonorées autant que peut l'être un homme coupable d'infamie; puis, il y a des rues nobles, puis de jeunes rues sur la moralité desquelles le public ne s'est pas encore formé d'opinion; puis des rues assassines, des rues plus vieilles que de vieilles douairières ne sont vieilles, des rues estimables, des rues toujours propres, des rues toujours sales, des rues ouvrières, travailleuses mercantiles.—Mais Paris est un véritable océan. Jetez y la sonde: vous n'en connaîtrez jamais la profondeur. Parcourez le, décrivez le: quelque soin que vous mettiez à le parcourir, à le décrire; quelque nombreux et intéressés que soient les explorateurs de cette mer; il s'y rencontrera toujours un lieu vierge, un antre inconnu, des fleurs, des perles, des monstres, quelque chose d'inouï, mais d'oublier par les poètes littéraires.”—DE BALZAC.

SECTION VI. ANCIENT PROVINCE OF THE ISLE DE FRANCE, CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF SEINE, OISE, AISE, SEINE ET OISE, SEINE ET MARNE.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE.

THE department of the *Seine* is the smallest in France; but, as it contains *Paris*, it is the most important. It is composed of a small portion of the *Isle de France*, and its rivers, &c. &c. are mentioned in the description of the department of the *Seine et l'Oise*.

CANALS.—The principal of these are, the *Canal de l'Ourcq*, the *Canal de la Seine à la Seine*, and the *Canal Saint Maur*. The former supplies the *Canal Saint Denis*, and is destined to afford that supply of water necessary to the embellishment and

comfort of Paris. Part of the *Canal Saint Mair* is dug through a rock, covered in with a vaulted roof of mill-stone. A training path, ten feet wide, extends along the right side of this vault, by the side of the canal. The top of the hill through which it passes is planted with four rows of trees, and affords a beautiful walk and prospect.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Paris; it is the see of an archbishop. The Protestants have a consistorial church, to which are attached four pastors, besides three temples, three Bible Societies, two Missionary Societies, a society of *secours mutuels*, and nine protestant schools.

The Lutherans, of the confession of Augsburg, have also a consistorial church.

The Jews have their central consistorial synagogue at Paris, under the Grand Rabbi and seven lay ministers.

CELEBRATED CHARACTERS.—D'Alembert, Anquetil, Arnaud, d'Andilly, Angereau, Bailly Maire de Paris, Le Besu, Beranger, Biot, Brissot de Varville, Camille Desmoulins, Madame Campan, Conte de Caylus, Chordin, Condé, surnommé le Grand, Condorcet, Crebillon, Dacier, Madame. Dèshoulières d'Estrées Marechal de France, Eugene de Savoye, Grouchy, Harbelot, Le Brun, Ninon de l'Enclos, Morivau, Molière, Le Notre, Etienne Parquier, the brothers Perrault, Racine, son of the Racine; Cardinal Richelieu, Rousseau, Paul Scarron, Eugène Scébe, Talma, Turgot, Vernet, father and son; Voltaire, &c. &c.

SOIL.—“The country in which *Paris* is situated,” says the learned Cuvier, “is, perhaps, one of the most remarkable which has drawn the attention of the geologist, from the succession of soils which compose it, and from the extraordinary organization it discloses.” Thousands of marine shells, regularly intermingled with layers of fresh water shells, principally constitute the soil, the bones of terrestrial animals, unknown in modern times, and others of enormous size, found only in the most distant countries, are scattered in the superficial strata. Curious silicious conformations of masses of a crystalline form are found in the neighbourhood of the capital, particularly about Montmartre.

CLIMATE.—The winter at *Paris* is long and severe; the spring is cold and damp, the summer hot, often very rainy; but the autumn is superb, the sky is, indeed, at this season exceedingly

beautiful, particularly at sun-set, when its last rays strike the clouds of vapour and smoke which are suspended over the capital. It has been calculated that, one year with another, there are 180 days of fog and 140 days of rain at Paris, and that, in the lapse of 130 years, three months alone have passed entirely without rain, *i.e.* from 1689 to 1824.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, *viz.* *Paris, St. Denis, Sceaux, Vincennes*. It is comprised in the first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

PARIS, at the time of the invasion of the Romans, was called *Lutèce*; it was then confined to the island in the Seine, and even some part of this small space was cultivated ground: the houses, or rather huts, were few in number, and placed without any regard to order, they were low, and covered with reeds. Such was Paris, now the capital of a great empire, when Camalogue, before he gave battle to the Roman legions, commanded by Labienus, set fire to it, and destroyed likewise the two wooden bridges that connected it with the land. Cæsar, however, finally got possession of the island, and rebuilt the houses upon a more solid base, and re-erected the bridges, which were defended by two great towers. The Parisians were not, however, admitted into the rank of free nations and independent allies of the Romans. *Lutèce* was not a metropolitan town, it was dependent upon the province of *Lyonnais*. It was in the fourth century that Julian constituted *Lutèce* a city, and called it *Parisii*. Towards the end of the same century two præfects resided in the city, and a judicial body and municipal officers were also established, and held their sittings within its walls. Julian, whose favourite residence it became, was here proclaimed emperor. He writes thus in his *Mispogan*: "*I passed the winter in my dear Lutèce; it is situated in a little island, which can only be entered by two wooden bridges; here the vine thrives beautifully, and is well cultivated, and the inhabitants begin to raise fig trees.*" All that remains of the palace of Julian, or as it was called *Palais des Thermes*,* its vast gardens, its vineyard, &c. is one

* At Rome, the name of *Thermes* was given to the vast edifices which were constructed for warm baths; but, in the sequel, it was conferred on palaces inhabited by the emperors. Such was the *Thermes de Julian*.

large hall, composed of two parallelograms, forming one apartment. The architecture of this hall is simple and majestic. A staircase has lately been discovered, leading to two subterranean stories, which extend to the banks of the river. In after times these two towers of wood, which were at that period called *chatelets*, were burnt just before the Norman inroads. Until 508 the island was called, *l'Ile du Palais*, in consequence of the palace which Julian had built in it; but when Clovis declared it the capital of his dominions, it was denominated *la Cité, the City*. In the reign of Charles V. the *chatelets* were constructed of stone, and were denominated the *grand* and *petit chatelets*. Paris now extended itself on the opposite banks of the river, and was enclosed by a wall, long since destroyed. Philippe Augustus surrounded it with a new wall and high towers. The houses were now as thickly placed as they could be, but still they were insufficient for the population; they were consequently raised story above story, until at last they overtopped the wall and towers. These streets being narrow were dark and unwholesome, and again the inhabitants escaped beyond the boundaries, and built houses in the plain and open country, and surrounded them with gardens, without order, just as their fancy led them. In the fifteenth century, Paris had burst the four successive walls which had surrounded and confined it. It was thus described by Gilles Corrozet, in the beginning of the sixteenth century.

Cette ville est de onze portes,
 Avec gros murs, qui n'est pas peu de chose
 Profonds fossez tout à l'entour s'estendent;
 Où maintes eaux de toutes parts se rendent;
 Lequel enclos sept lieues lors contient,
 Comme le bruyt tout commun le maintient.
 Puis après sont cinq grands ponts,
 Pour dessus l'eau passer et repasser
 Depuis la ville en la noble Cité,
 De la Cité en l'Université.

Paris was at first divided into four parts, which, from their number, *quatre*, were called *quartiers*: these *quartiers* were doubled in the reign of Charles VI.; and in the time of Henry III. Paris was divided into seventeen *quartiers*. In 1701, Louis XIV. increased the number of these *quartiers* to twenty. Louis XV. gave orders that the capital should be en-

closed within new limits, the boundaries of which he himself fixed; but it was not until 1782, in the time of Louis XVI., that the farmers-general received the commands of that monarch to enclose Paris within new walls, in which the faubourgs were to be comprehended: at proper and stated distances these walls were to be pierced by *barrières*, exclusively destined to the admission of merchandise and those products necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants. During the imperial government, and at the restoration of the Bourbons, some few alterations were made in the northern boundary, but Paris is now nearly circumscribed by this line, as originally marked out. In 1789 Paris was divided into sixty districts, and in 1791, into forty-eight sections; in 1796, into twelve municipalities, or *arrondissemens*; and this division still subsists, each *arrondissement* containing four *quartiers*.

In the fifteenth century Paris was composed of three distinct towns, having each its peculiar physiognomy, manners, customs, privileges, and history—the CITY, the UNIVERSITY, and the TOWN. The Cité occupied the island, seated on the bosom of the Seine, between her two daughters-in-law. The University covered the left bank of the Seine. The *Ville*, or town, which was the largest of the three, extended along the right bank. These three grand divisions of Paris composed one actual city, each one dependent upon the other. Their appearance or aspect were as different as possible. The City abounded in churches, the Town in palaces, the University in colleges. The island belonged to the bishop; the right bank to the *Prévôt des marchands*, the left to the Rector. The *Prévôt de Paris*, a royal, not a municipal officer, was above them all. The Cité contained *Notre Dame*, and the *Hotel Dieu*; in the Town was the old *Louvre*, the *Hotel de Ville*, and *les Halles*, the markets. The Sorbonne and the *Pré aux Clercs* were in the University. The crimes and misdemeanours which the students committed in the *Pré aux Clercs*, were tried in the island, at the *palais de justice*, and they were punished on the right bank, in the Town, at *Montfaucon*, unless the rector, feeling his own strength, and the weakness of the monarch, interfered; for it was considered a valued privilege among these students, that they should be hanged on their own premises. The University had six gates, built by Philippe Auguste; and the City had six gates, built by Charles V. A deep ditch surrounded Paris, which was

supplied by the waters of the Seine. The island is said to have resembled a ship, and hence it is that Paris formerly bore a ship in its arms, and not from the Normans, as has been sometimes asserted.

Modern PARIS occupies a square of about two leagues, or perhaps it would be more accurate to say, about 10,060 acres, and a few odd perches, included in which are, the *Champ de Mars*, *Champs Ellysée*, *Avenue de Neuilly*, *Jardin de Luxemburg*, *Jardin des Thuilleries*, *Jardin du Roi*, and the *Boulevards*, all of which form delightful promenades for the gay Parisians.

VOIRIE.—There are two establishments in Paris, called the *Grande* and the *Petite Voirie*: these are bound to see that the streets of the capital are kept in a tolerable state of cleanliness; yet the city is by no means so clean, or so well attended to, as it should be; the more particularly, as the streets being narrow, and the houses high, they are, in summer, hot and close; besides which, such a climate as described above, requires more than an ordinary care to keep the city in a wholesome state. The markets in particular present, in the evening, an unpleasant appearance, and emit a most disagreeable smell. Many parts of *Paris*, which have been built during the last thirty years, are well arranged. In the principal streets the houses are not now so high, the streets are wide, and the pavement is contrived to carry off the superfluous water. The houses are elegantly constructed, and elegantly furnished; but these improvements are for the rich. The former dwellings of the artisan, and the poorer classes of society, have been replaced by handsome buildings, but no more humble, no comfortable dwellings have been erected for the accommodation of the industrious poor. The consequence is, that the inhabitants who have been thus dislodged, have been compelled to repair to the already crowded *quartiers* of *Saint Denis*, *Saint Martin*, of *Artis*; *La Grève*, *La Cité*, and *Popincourt*, to the *Faubourgs*, *Saint Marceau*, and *Saint Victor*, the narrow crooked streets of which, composed of close, damp, dirty houses, is a miserable and unwholesome asylum. The houses in the common streets are raised story above story, to a great height, and this prevents a free circulation of air.

Many improvements have been made in Paris of late years, but there is still much to be done. In the first place, until all Paris be furnished with covered sewers, some parts of the city must

necessarily be unwholesome. For instance, the *voirie*, or drain; at *Montfaucon*, is a nuisance beyond all description, which, in the summer time, infests the air with fœtid, unwholesome vapours; and if the wind blow that way, is sensibly felt even as far as the gardens of the *Thuilleries*. The want of water, too, is another inconvenience, which in these times, when, as M. Perrier affirms, Paris is at the head of *European civilization*, is scarcely to be credited. The fountains are very beautiful, it is true; but the lead pipe and the forcing pump are much more useful. The actual supply of water in Paris, daily, amounts to 293,600 cubic feet, or thirty pounds avoirdupois to each inhabitant, in a population of 600,000,* and this is to be procured at a very heavy price.†

Eaux Clarifiées (Clarified water).—The effect of the waters of Paris on strangers is well known. These waters, charged with animal and vegetable substances in dissolution, are always impure: but a vast establishment has been created for their purification, by means of charcoal filters. By experiments, publicly made, it has been proved that the most impure water, on passing through these filters, appeared, in a few instants, as clear and bright as the crystal stream.

Some parts of Paris are lighted with gas; the *Palais Royal*, the *Rue Rivoli*, *Rue de la Paix*, *Rue Vivienne*, and all the streets thereabouts, as well as the arcades, or passages, and most of the principal shops, are illumined by this brilliant light; but the rest of the capital of *la belle France* is in a comparative state of darkness. The melancholy *lanterne à la reverbère*, suspended by a cord across the street, through which gleams a solitary candle, just makes darkness visible, and these are extinguished at midnight.

Paris contains thirty-seven churches, seven *temples* (consecrated to different worships), a national bank, an exchange, a

* The supply in London is 6,000,000 cubic feet of water daily, for a population of 1,000,000 of inhabitants. In Rome three aqueducts, the *Acqua Felice*, *Juliana*, and *Paulina*, with some additional sources, deliver, in twenty-four hours, according to the calculation of Prony, 5,375,000 cubic feet. This shared among a population of 130,000, gives about forty cubic feet for each individual, being nearly the same comparative supply as in the period of Roman splendour.—*Leslie's Elements of Natural Philosophy*.

† A friend of the author paid at an hotel in Paris, two francs for a foot-bath.

Mont de Piété, thirty-four markets, seven abattoirs, twenty-seven theatres, seven colleges, forty-two barracks, twenty-seven hospitals and hospices, (poor house,) thirteen prisons, and four cemeteries. The most celebrated and most useful of these shall be described, as well as several other establishments for the public good, and ornamental buildings, with which Paris abounds.

LEARNED BODIES AND LEARNED SOCIETIES.—Among these the University ranks first; then comes the *Institute*, the *Faculté de Médecine* (answering to our College of Surgeons), the *Faculté de Théologie, de Droit, des Sciences* and *des Belles Lettres*. There are five royal colleges, two private colleges, a *Collège de France*, at which a course of the following studies is pursued:—physics, astronomy, mathematics, &c. &c. A museum of natural history, (*the jardin des plantes*,) with regular courses of study on that subject; *une École des Langues orientales vivantes*; *un Collège Britannique*, for English, Irish, and Scotch; *un Bureau des Longitudes*; *une École spéciale de Pharmacie*, *une École des beaux Arts*; *une École gratuite de Dessin*; *l'École Polytechnique*, *École des Ponts et Chaussées*; *École des Mines*; and *un Cours normal primaire*, for the formation of instructors, both men and women, for the primary schools, somewhat resembling the English Lancasterian schools.

There is a royal Academy of Medicine, the royal Society of Antiquarians, the French Society of Natural Statisticians, the royal and central Society of Agriculture, the Society for the Encouragement of National Industry, the Geographical Society, the Philosophic Society, &c.

Further mention must be made of some of these learned bodies, but the limits of this work will not permit the details of the whole of them to be given: those shall be chosen which most tend to show the progress of civilization.

UNIVERSITY OF PARIS.—The ancient chronicles of France differ as to the origin of the University, some affirming that Charlemagne was the founder, and that he appointed four English monks, Alcuin, Rabanus, Amalarius, and Clement, as the directors and teachers of the ecclesiastical and literary departments, and that the University was then organized. Others maintain that it had been formally founded by Pepin the Younger, and still the Carolingian era is ascribed to the University. Others maintain that it was only in the time of Louis the Great, or Philippe Auguste that

this learned body was established, under the surveillance of *Pierre Lombard*, Bishop of Paris. The privileges conferred upon the scholars by successive monarchs, almost exceeded those enjoyed by knights.* Every scholar became noble by right, and was privileged to wear a sword. Upon arriving in any town, the inhabitants were compelled to provide him a lodging, from which they could not expel him, until it was his own pleasure to depart. The artisan, whose occupation disturbed his studies, was obliged to remove: even were he a stranger, he enjoyed all the privileges of a citizen. He was exempt from taxes and subsidies of every description, and a decree of *Philippe de Valois* subjected the financier to corporal punishment who should inscribe his name as a contributor; and the *juge conservateur* of the university condemned the *hyissier* to banishment who should seize on the goods of a scholar.

The scholar was not compelled to pay those debts he had contracted before he commenced his scholarship; and unless he were cited three times, during the term of his studies, for debts contracted during that period, the creditor had no legal claims upon him. His books were never permitted to be seized under any circumstances; and his father could not be arrested, in any town, while he was on a visit to his son. The scholar could not be arrested in his college. If he insulted or struck an ecclesiastic, the sentence of excommunication could be withdrawn by his superior: even if he committed murder, the university judges could pardon him; and it frequently happened, that, in some extraordinary and aggravated case the judges were inclined to allow justice to take its course, the scholars tumultuously assembled, with cries and threats, and compelled them to pardon the delinquent.

The Provost of Paris, especial judge of the scholars, took his oath with his hands between those of the *Rector* of the University.

Among the most singular officers chosen among the scholars

* The privileges of a knight were, at one period, very great. He was exempt from all taxes, services, and burthens. His goods and property were secure from arrest while he was with war, or on his shield and cloak. When a knight travelled he was attended by an esquire, armour bearer, and a page. In his state palanquin, supported with his shield on his back, he was preceded, and a banner borne before him. If he entered a town, he was received on his knees, and his lance in his hand, it was considered an offence to advance.

was that called *explorator*; he was to watch over his companions, and report them to the masters for punishment, if they spoke French. There is a curious story related of one of the learned *recteurs*. Having occasion to speak to a paper manufacturer, he commenced a Latin oration to the poor man, who, not comprehending one word of what was said to him, begged the *recteur* "would speak French, and he should then understand him." The enraged and indignant pedant arrested the poor man, and dragged him before the parliament to receive the punishment due to his crime. The parliament, however, by its decree, excused the poor man, and pardoned his anticlassical ignorance.

THE SORBONNE, the most ancient college in France, was established in 1252. In the year 1540 there were no less than 40,000 scholars in Paris; and the universities of Toulouse and Bordeaux each contained almost as many. This is not at all surprising, when we reflect upon those privileges which gave them a license for indulging in all the evil propensities of the human heart, instead of imposing upon the student those wise restraints which would have made them good and amiable, as well as learned, members of society.

The university is at present under the government of the *Conseil royal de l'Instruction publique*. The members of this council are elected by the King, and they are under the presidency of the *Ministres des Cultes et de l'Instruction publique*. It is composed of twenty-six *Académies*, answering to the *Cours Royales*, or Courts of Appeal. Their names, and the departments over which their influence extends, are,—

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Departments.</i>
Aix	Bouches du Rhone, Basses Alpes, Var, Corsica.
Amiens	Somme, Aisne, Oise.
Angers	Maine et Loire, Sarthe, Mayenne.
Besançon . . .	Doubs, Haute-Saône, Jura.
Bordeaux . . .	Gironde, Dordogne, Charente.
Bourges	Nièvre, Cher, Indre.
Caen	Calvados, Orne, Manche.
Clermont	Puy de Dome, Allier, Cantal, Haute Loire.
Dijon	Côte d'Or, Yonne, Saône et Loire.
Douai	Nord, Pas de Calais.
Grenoble	Isère, Drôme, Hautes Alpes.

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Departments.</i>
<i>Limoges</i>	Haute Vienne, Creuse, Corrèze.
<i>Lyon</i>	Rhone, Ain, Loire.
<i>Metz</i>	Moselle, Ardennes.
<i>Monpellier</i> . .	Herault, Aveyron, Aude, Pyrénées Orientales.
<i>Nancy</i>	Meurthe, Meuse, Vosges.
<i>Nîmes</i>	Gard, Vaucluse, Lozère.
<i>Orléans</i>	Loiret, Indre et Loire, Loir et Cher.
<i>Paris</i>	{ Seine, Seine et Oise, Seine et Marne, Aube, Yonne, Marne, Eure et Loire.
<i>Pau</i>	Basses Pyrénées, Hautes Pyrénées, Landes.
<i>Poitiers</i>	Vienne, Deux Sèvres, Vandée, Charente Inférieure.
<i>Reims</i>	{ Ille et Vilaine, Côtes du Nord, Finistère, Mor- bihan, Loire Inférieure.
<i>Rouen</i>	Seine Inférieure, Eure.
<i>Strasbourg</i> . .	Bas Rhin, Haut Rhin.
<i>Toulouse</i> . . .	Haute Garonne, Ariège, Tarn, Tarn et Garonne.

Each Académie is under the government of a *Recteur*.

The University is divided into two sections, that of the *sciences*, and *belles lettres*. These courses of study are pursued at the Sorbonne. All the courses are public. At stated times of the year, the Professors of the University assemble, to confer the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, of *ex-sciences*, on those persons who present themselves as candidates for that honour. Without having received one of these degrees, no one can be admitted to the Military School, or the Schools of Medicine and Law: a dispensation may sometimes be obtained by great interst, but very rarely. Latin, Greek, ancient and modern history, rhetoric, philosophy, geography, physics, arithmetic, the ground work of algebra, (that is to say, as far as equations of the second degree,) geometry, and some knowledge of the globes, is required for obtaining the degree *Bachelier ex lettres*. If a student be desirous of obtaining a certificate at the end of the year, as to his progress and conduct, it is necessary he should write his name, during the first fortnight of the course, in a register, always accessible for that purpose.

There are five royal colleges in France, without counting that of France; which is, in fact, a second Sorbonne:—*St. Louis*, *Louis le Grand*, *Henry IV.*, *St. Barbe*, and *Charlemagne*; the

latter receives only *externes*, (day scholars); these colleges are under the direction of the university, and they all have boarding schools under their control. No boarding school can be established without the permission of the university, to which every master is compelled to pay *le droit universitaire*; that is to say, so much for every boarder. Every year a council général is held at the Sorbonne, at which assemble all the first scholars from these several colleges, for the purpose of receiving prizes, some of which confer privileges and exemptions from certain offices.

THE INSTITUTE.—The palace occupied by the members of the Institute was founded by Mazarine, upon the site of the *Hôtel de Nesle*, and was then called the *Collège des Quatre Nations*, because the cardinal collected sixty gentlemen of different nations to pursue their studies in his new establishment. The old church has been transformed into a *Salle des Séances*, a hall in which the sittings of the society are held: it is ornamented with the busts and statues of the *savans* and *litterati* of France. It is decorated with columns, and is flanked by two fountains, from which four lions occasionally throw columns of water.

As a learned body, the *Institute* is composed of four academies:—*Académie de Sciences*, *Académie Française*, *Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques*, *Académie des beaux Arts*. The *Académie Française* was first established by Richelieu; and, in 1635, he procured from Louis XIII. *lettres patentes* for this his favourite establishment.

The *Académie des Inscriptions, and de Belles Lettres*, was established by Colbert, in 1635: it was then called *Poésie Académique*, for its pursuits did not extend much beyond the embellishment of Versailles, and the examination of the lyric tragedies of *Quinault*, &c. It now ranks among the learned societies of France. The *Académie des Sciences*, founded by Colbert, in 1666, was instituted by that minister in imitation of the Royal Society of London, established in the reign of Charles II., though its origin was derived from the meeting of several learned men at the time of Cromwell, for the purpose of investigating the secrets of nature.

During the revolution all these academies disappeared; but, when its terrors had somewhat subsided, the Constitution of

Convention decreed that there should be established, "An *Institut National*, which should be devoted to useful discoveries, and the perfection of the arts and sciences."

This creation was followed by that of the *Institut d'Égypte*, which disappeared on the evacuation of that country by the French.

In 1803, Buonaparte, by a dash of his pen, suppressed the *Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques*, as incompatible with his intentions and new politics, and divided the Institute into four classes:—*Sciences Physiques, et Mathématiques*,—*Langue et Littérature Française*,—*Histoire et Littérature Anciennes*,—*Beaux Arts*. In 1815, the classes resumed the names they had before the revolution; and in October, 1832, the *Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques* was re-established, and is at present perfectly organised.

• *ÉCOLE MILITAIRE* is situated along one side of the *Champ-de-Mars*. It was founded by Louis XIV. in 1751, for the reception of 500 pupils, and a great number of officers and masters of every description. Its form is that of a parallelogram, 220 toises in length, and 130 in depth. It is surrounded by fine avenues of trees. The *façade*, or front, is decorated with a row of Corinthian pillars, crowned by a pediment.

• *ÉCOLE DE MÉDECINE*.—The school of medicine at Paris was erected in 1774, by Louis XVI.: it is a noble building, of the Ionic order; the court is sixty-six feet wide, and 114 broad. The amphitheatre is capable of containing 1,200 pupils; it is ornamented with three large pictures in fresco, executed by Le Sieuf Gibelin. The first represents Esculapius teaching the principles of medicine and surgery: at the bottom of this, is the following inscription:—

Ils tiennent, des Dieux les principes qu'ils nous ont transmis.—

"It is from the Gods they held those principles which they have transmitted to us."

• The second picture represents Louis XVI. receiving La Martinière, his physician, and several other academicians and pupils. Beneath this is inscribed:

La munificence du monarque, hâte leurs progrès, et récompense leur zèle.—"The munificence of the monarch accelerates their progress and rewards their zeal."

The third picture represents a warlike scene, when the sick and wounded are receiving assistance from surgeons and physicians. The following lines express its meaning:—

Ils stançent le sang consacré à la défense de la patrie.—"They staunch the blood consecrated to the defence of their country."

The other bodies of the building contain halls of demonstration, administration, and a library; it also contains a vast cabinet of human anatomy, and of comparative anatomy.

ÉCOLE DU DROIT.—Schools for the study of law at Paris were established so early as the time of Philippe Augustus; but a quarrel between the professors, students, and the town's-folk, induced the learned body to retire from Paris. In 1231, Pope Gregory interfered, and, with the assistance of the King, brought back the doctors and professors. Yet it is related by some historians, and those not a few, that law was forbidden to be taught at Paris in those early times; but the fact is this,—many of the monks devoted so much of their time to the schools of medicine and law, that Alexander III., at the council of Tours, in 1163, absolutely forbade all persons who had adopted a monastic life from attending these schools, under pain of excommunication. In the sequel, this law extended to the seculars of the capital as well as the clergy, but the former paid little heed to it. Before the revolution of 1789, *Ecole du droit* was in a deplorable state; the instruction was unworthy that name, the examinations a mere ceremony, and the diplomas were sold to the highest bidder. The school itself sunk into nonentity at that period; but a decree, 22^d Ventose, An^r XII., (13 March, 1804,) re-organised the schools of law, not only at Paris, but in other great cities of France. The edifice which the *Ecole du droit* occupied being found too small for the accommodation of the professors, a new building was erected, opposite what is now called the *Panthéon*; but which was originally destined for a church dedicated to *Saint Geneviève*. This building was commenced in 1771, and completed in 1783; and, on the 24th of November of the same year, the professors solemnly took possession of it. It is a handsome building, containing two vast amphitheatres, capable of accommodating 500 auditors; several halls for the public examinations, and apartments for the greater part of the professors. A student must have studied one year, and have undergone an examination, before he can prac

tise as attorney; a barrister or advocate, before he can receive a diploma as licentiate, must have gone through four courses, have submitted to four examinations, and one public thesis; and, in order to obtain the rank of doctor, it is requisite to pursue during four years the courses of law, to undergo six examinations and two public thesis.

On the 10th of May, 1806, the schools of law were converted into *Faculties of law*, and they were included in the grand institution of the Imperial University.

Eight courses are now professed at the *Faculté de Droit* of Paris. They consist of instruction in,—1st, the Civil Code; 2nd, the Institutes of Justinian, or the Elements of Roman Law; 3rd, Civil Law and Criminal Legislation; 4th, the Code of Commerce; 5th, Administrative Law; 6th, the History of Law; 7th, the Law of Nations, &c.

Eight professors and eight sub-professors are attached to this establishment: they are elected by votes. The number of students varies from 2,000 to 2,500.

There are, in France, eight schools of law besides that of Paris, viz.,—those of *Aix, Caen, Dijon, Grenoble, Poitiers, Rennes, Strasbourg, and Toulouse.*

ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE.—It was *Prieur* of the *Côte d'Or*, who, with *Carnot*, completed the arrangement of this celebrated school, which was founded under the auspices of the Committee of Public Safety. The government was so eager, and contributed so largely, to the constitution of this school, which they established in a portion of the *Palais Bourbon*, that, in less than five months, it was furnished with drawings, architectural, naval, military, geographical, geometrical, and, in short, with every thing which could contribute to the formation of officers of the engineers and artillery, and public works. The course of study is for three years, at which period there is an examination of the pupils, the government employing those who have so distinguished themselves as to gain prizes.

This school now occupies the *Collège de Navarre*, a building well calculated for such a purpose.

MUSEES.—*Galérie du Louvre.* The Convention, by a decree in 1793, ordered the establishment of a National Museum; and, on the 10th of August of that year, 537 pictures, by the best masters, were exhibited. This collection was greatly increased

by the spoliation of other countries by the French arms, but the restitution demanded in 1815 stripped it of many of its precious treasures. Several of the apartments contain large collections of sketches, enamels, original drawings in crayons, water-colours, &c., and one portion of the gallery is devoted to sculpture. It is also rich in Greek and Egyptian antiquities.

In the grand saloon of the *Louvre*, which is lighted from above, there is an annual exhibition of paintings and sculpture. In the reign of Louis XIV., there were two exhibitions of this kind; one in the court of the *Palais Royal* in 1675; and the second, in 1704, in the great gallery of the *Louvre*. This exhibition, like every other institution in France, has undergone many changes, as to the place and time of its renewal. Since the revolution of 1830, it has been decreed, that the exhibitions shall be annually, commencing on the 1st of March, to finish the 4th of May. The encouragement the fine art of painting has received within the last 150 years in France, may be ascertained by the fact, that, so late as 1757, 220 paintings were alone exhibited; and that, in 1834, the pictures amounted to 1834, besides statues. The French have a school of painting at Rome, the expence of which is estimated at 107,000 francs annually. Painting and sculpture have, it is said, made great advances in France during late years.

Galérie de Luxembourg.—This museum occupies a portion of the northern wing of the *Palais Luxembourg*; it formerly contained a suite of historic pictures, by Rubens; but these, with many others by the ancient masters, have been transported to the *Louvre*. It at present contains the finest specimens of living artists; but its most valued treasure is *la baigneuse de Julian*, the female bather.

The Musée de l'Artillerie was founded in 1794. A decree of the administration, which was commissioned to superintend the additional fabrication of small arms then required, proposed the establishment of a dépôt for arms of all kinds. The commissioners began by collecting the rare and curious arms which were scattered in Paris, belonging to different persons who had emigrated during the revolution. These researches procured a very important collection, which was deposited in the convent of the *Feuillans*; in 1796, it passed under the direction of the Artillery, in the *Place Saint-Thomas d'Aquin*, where it remains to this

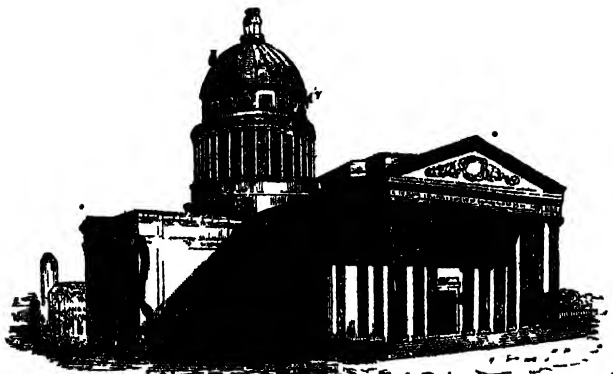
day. The conquests of France in Italy, in Spain, and Germany, enriched the *Musée* with arms, remarkable for their beauty, or interesting from their recollections.

More than fifteen thousand articles have been added since 1825. The great gallery, known under the name of *Salle des Armures*, exists only since that epoch. The *Musée* is divided into five great galleries. The ancient defensive arms, such as coats of mail, armour *de pied en cap*, cuirasses, helmets, shields, and others, are arranged in the largest gallery. Collections of offensive arms, a great quantity of models of arms of every kind, machines and instruments belonging to artillery, occupy the four other galleries. Some beautiful trophies are composed altogether of offensive and defensive arms.

In each of these four last galleries, there is placed, facing the windows, a rack, bearing small arms, ancient and modern, from the match arquebuse, the most ancient of small fire-arms, to the percussion gun, which is but recently invented. Whatever is most curious and precious, from the beauty of the ornaments, or the singularity of the form, is preserved in three glazed cabinets, placed in the first, third, and fourth galleries.

MUSÉE DES MONUMENS, in the *Rue des Petits Augustins*. The objects which formerly composed this Museum have been distributed, in 1815, to other establishments; it formerly contained a number of national monuments, which were arranged so as to form a succession of epochs: it is in agitation to restore this Museum at the *Hôtel de Clovis*, and in the hall of the *Palais des Thermes*.

MUSÉE ET JARDIN DES PLANTES, now called *Jardin du Roi*. This garden was established in 1638; the original idea belongs to *Guy de la Brasse*, physician to Louis XIII., but it is much improved and greatly enlarged since those days. It is one of the greatest attractions of the capital. It contains a botanical garden, with immense hot-houses and green-houses; a menagerie of living animals, accommodated, as far as it is possible, with every comfort; a cabinet of exceeding beauty and extent, of comparative anatomy; several galleries, in which are arranged specimens of the three kingdoms of nature,—this is a very fine collection; an amphitheatre for the accommodation of the students, and a fine library. A fine statue of *Buffon* is appropriately placed in this *Jardin des Plantes*. It affords a delightful walk along the banks of the Seine.



PANTHÉON.—This monument was commenced in 1757 seven years were employed in preparing the ground and laying the foundation. Louis XV. came in great pomp, in 1764, to lay the first stone. The plan of the Panthéon represents a Greek cross, 340 feet long and 250 broad. The height of the dome is 190 feet, its diameter 67 feet. The principal front is composed of a portico, in imitation of the Panthéon at Rome, surmounted by a pediment; eleven steps lead to the portico. This magnificent edifice was executed upon the designs of Soufflot.

After forty years labour, and an expence of 15,000,000 francs, apprehensions were entertained that the dome would fall, from its immense weight. M. Rondolet was commissioned to remedy the evil, which he effected by reconstructing the four pillars which support the dome. The interior of the Panthéon is richly ornamented, particularly the dome, upon which the *Apothéose de Sainte-Geneviève* is sculptured in fresco. Beneath the Panthéon is a subterraneous church, eighteen feet beneath the surface of the ground, and supported by twenty pillars. The Panthéon was originally destined for a church, but this superb edifice now receives the remains of those citizens who have in any way distinguished themselves by benefiting their country.

Beneath the pediment of the portico is the inscription "*Aux grands hommes, la patrie reconnaissante.*"

LA SAINTE-CHAPELLE.—This elegant building was founded and erected by Saint Louis, on his return from the crusade, under the direction of Eudes de Montreuil, whom he brought

with him from the Holy Land. It is of Saracen architecture, of the most beautiful description, consisting of two stories: the lower chapel was dedicated to the Virgin, and was appropriated to the inhabitants of the court generally; the upper chapel was denominated *Sainte Couronne*, or *Sainte Croix*, and was reserved for the king and his officers. It is 110 feet high, from the ground to the angle of the pediment, 110 long, and 27 wide, so that it has the appearance of being much higher than it is. The expense of erecting this chapel is calculated at 6,000,000 of francs. It contained many precious relics, and many beautiful pieces of workmanship, in the taste of the times of its erection. Two of these, which are still in existence, have been deposited in the *Musée des Petits Augustins*, and are worth describing. On each side of the choir of the chapel were two altars, decorated with two pictures, in enamel, each divided into several compartments, representing the passion of our Saviour. At the bottom of one of these pictures was the figure of Francis I. and Claude his wife: at the bottom of the other was Henry II. and Diana of Poitiers, his mistress. These enamels were executed by *Leonard de Limoge*, after the designs of *Prionatrice*. Upon the principal altar there was a shrine, in the form of the chapel itself; it was of silver gilt, and set with precious stones, and contained, originally, the bones of *Saint Louis*. Above this there was another shrine, of gilt bronze; in it were deposited all the relics that Saint Louis bought of the Emperor Baldwin, of Constantinople. Two staircases led to this shrine. The riches formerly deposited in this sacred edifice fell little short of the treasure of Loretto. The bust of *Saint Louis*, as large as life in gold, supported by two angels, in silver gilt; a superb cross, books richly gilt and embroidered, a large gold cross, covered with filigree work and set with precious stones, &c. But the most curious and interesting of the works of art which it contained was a celebrated cameo, in onyx-agate; it is of an oval form, about a foot long and ten inches wide. It represents the apotheosis of the Emperor Augustus, engraven in relief, and is composed of a great number of figures. It was presented to the chapel by *Charles Quint*. During a fire which broke out in the palace, on the 7th March, 1618, this agate was broken in two pieces; but it has been repaired, and it is still to be seen in the cabinet of antiquities in the royal library. In 1711, Boileau was buried in

the lower chapel of the *Sainte Chapelle*, under the very spot formerly occupied by the *autrin*, (*pulpit*), which he has rendered so famous.

For the last twenty years the *Sainte Chapelle* has ceased to be consecrated to divine service. It is fitted up in the interior with large presses, in which are deposited a part of the archives of the kingdom, and the series of judiciary records of the parliamentary collection of registers. These presses, being placed against the walls of the edifice, conceal all the beautiful workmanship of arabesques, &c. that decorate them. Such is the fate of *la merveilleux petit église de Saint-Louis, dans "la Sainte Chapelle, église toute mystique, tout arabe d'architecture, *** un monde de religion et de poésie, tout un Orient chrétien est en ses vitraux, fragile et précieuse peinture que l'on néglige trop et que le vent emportera quelque jour."**

ETABLISSEMENT DE L'EXPOSITION DE L'INDUSTRIE.—The first public exhibition of the products of industry in France, took place in the *Champ-de-Mars*, in the month of July, 1798, under the ministry of *François de Neufchâteau*, and after the magnificent *fetes* given by the Directory at this season. During the Consulate there were two exhibitions of this kind, and one during the Empire. In the year 1833, a royal ordinance decreed that this exhibition should take place once in five years, and a building has been erected, in the *Place de la Concorde*, for the purpose of receiving the articles exhibited. It consists of four separate buildings, each forming a parallelogram 396 feet long and fifty wide; a gallery runs round the interior of the building. The first of these buildings is destined to receive specimens of the mechanics of a larger description; the second is devoted to the cabinet maker, printer, &c. &c.; the third contains the most beautiful specimens of the articles produced by the loom; the halls of the fourth parallelogram contain carpets and painted papers; before these are tables covered with jewellery and plated articles. The erection of this building cost 500,000 francs.

No article can be exhibited until a jury, established in every department, has pronounced on its merits. A central jury, at Paris, decides finally upon their merits, and medals of gold, silver, and bronze are by them awarded to the most successful candidates. Besides which the *Préfets*, upon the recommendation

of the departmental judges, can make known the inventions of those artists, whose discoveries or improvements cannot be separately exhibited, but contribute, nevertheless, to the advancement of manufactures; and these artists can be entitled to prizes likewise.

CONSERVATOIRE DES ARTS ET MÉTIERS.—At the suggestion of the Abbé Grégoire, the convention decreed that the extensive buildings of the *Abbaye Saint Martin* should be appropriated to this useful establishment. The *Conservatoire* is divided into several halls, on the ground floor and second story, where the models of instruments and machines for every purpose are classed and arranged in the greatest order. A library consisting principally of books treating of mechanic science, drawings, and engravings, has also been collected in the *Abbaye*, and, during late years, the most distinguished professors attend and gratuitously impart those parts of scientific knowledge to the mechanics and artisans who choose to attend. This institution somewhat resembles the mechanical institutions which are now so general all over England.

SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE ANONYME DE LA SAVONNERIE.—This is an establishment for the purpose of encouraging those manufactures in which England excels in the woollen trade. The fabrication of goods in long wool, the English mode of spinning it, and converting it into poplins, bombazeens, crapes, gazes, glazed stuffs, moreens for hangings and furniture; waistcoat pieces, called *camels' hair*, pantaloons, and, in short, every kind of article for which long wool can be used.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY.—In treating of the *Observatories of France*, it may not be amiss to give a slight sketch of the progress made in the construction of these buildings for the prosecution of scientific researches, and of their origin. Among the ancients, the Chaldeans are first upon the lists of astronomers, and, consequently, must be supposed to be the first constructors of observatories. The Temple of Belus was dedicated to this useful purpose; and it has also been conjectured that the Pyramids served likewise as observatories; but this opinion has been questioned by some of the learned; it is, however, certain, that in the famous school of Alexandria, in Egypt, five centuries before the Christian era, the famous tomb of Osymandias was applied to this same purpose. It is said to have contained a golden circle, adapted to celestial observations, which was 365 cubits in cir-

cumference, and one cubit in thickness. In China, so early as the thirteenth century, an observatory was erected on the city walls, and Father Verbiest, a missionary Jesuit, being appointed, in 1668, President of the Tribunal of Mathematics, obtained permission to furnish this observatory with proper instruments. But it is in Europe that these buildings have been constructed and fitted up in the most expensive and accurate style.

The Royal Observatory of *Paris* was founded in 1667. It is 160 feet in front by 120 in depth, and ninety feet in height. Its vaults are also ninety feet deep, so that it is 180 feet from the top to bottom of the edifice. In addition to the original building, new rooms have been constructed close by the side of the observatory, where a large transit and circle, by Ramsden, have been fitted up. In 1788 new vaults were made, and a small observatory formed on the top of the building, which commands an extensive view of the horizon. There Louis XVI. established three *observateurs*, in order to prevent, as much as possible, any interruption to the series of observations. There is, also, one at Monsier, in the garden of the Capuchins; one at the Hotel de Clugny, and one at the Mazarine College. There are several besides these in Paris, and, next to the building just described, that which replaces one formerly belonging to the military school is the best: here *Lalande* commenced his observations, which have been continued by his relation, *M. François Lalande*. In 1791 he had made a catalogue of more than 10,000 northern stars. At *Marseille, Toulouse, Lyon, Dijon, Strasburg, Montpellier, Bergues, Avignon, Bordeaux, Brest, Rouen*, and at *Montauban*, there are fine observatories.

CHURCHES.—There are twelve parochial churches in Paris, one for each *arrondissement*. Every parochial church has a certain number of chapels of ease dependent upon it, according to the number of the population of the *arrondissement*. The bounds of these parishes were established by the concordat of 1801. Among the ancient churches of *Paris*, the most remarkable are those of *Notre Dame* and *Saint Germain l'Auxerrois*. Among those which may be called modern, are the churches of *Saint Sulpice, Saint Philippe-du-Roule, l'Assomption, Notre-dame-de-Lorette, La Chapelle de Louis XVI., Saint Roch, Saint Paul, Saint Denis*, &c. &c. Of these a few only can be selected, and first upon the list stands that of *Notre Dame*.

NOTRE DAME.—A temple consecrated to Jupiter formerly occupied the ground upon which Notre Dame now stands. In 1711 many curious remains of this Pagan temple were discovered, consisting of inscriptions, bas-reliefs, ruined columns, &c. A stately and beautiful edifice was, in 555, erected by *Childebert*, at the solicitation of *Saint Germain*, Bishop of Paris. This church, which contemporary writers represent as a wonder, was almost destroyed by the Normans in 875; yet it was repaired, and subsisted until the year 1161, when *Maurice Sully*, Bishop of Paris, commenced the present edifice; the Pope Alexander III. who had at that time sought refuge in Paris, laid the first stone. Its foundations are erected upon piles; its form is that of a Latin cross, 390 feet long, 144 wide, and 104 feet high. It has six doors, contains forty chapels, and is ornamented with 128 large pillars, and 108 columns composed of one block of stone. The windows are exquisitely worked; the circular windows, which are called roses, are very beautiful: before the revolution, in the line of niches in the front were twenty-seven statues of kings of France, from *Childebert* to *Philippe Auguste*. The two square towers are greatly admired for their height and rich ornaments; the three principal doors are highly sculptured. The roof of Notre Dame is, however, considered the most curious part of the edifice, in point of architecture; it is called *the forest*, from the immense number of chestnut-trees which have been employed in its construction. Formerly great criminals were conducted before their execution, to the *Parvis* of Notre Dame, to make the *amende honorable*. Jacques de Mornay, the unfortunate Grand Master of the Templars, with his companions, and, in later times, *Damiens*, the assassin of Louis XV., were brought hither for this purpose.

The Bishop of Paris kept formerly a pambulatory ladder in this Parvis, as a mark of the power he exercised in the jurisdiction of the capital. This ladder was replaced, in 1767, by an iron ring fastened to a stake, placed opposite one of the contreforts or buttresses of the southern tower, but this was likewise removed in 1790. From the spot which was occupied by this stake the itinerary distances to every part of France is calculated.

SAINT GERMAIN L'AUXEROIS was founded by Childeric I.

• *Parvis* is the name given to the place which immediately precedes the entrance to the principal portal of the church.

This church was partly destroyed by the Normans, but it was restored by successive monarchs. The great portal appears to belong to the fourteenth century; the pulpit is the most remarkable of any church in Paris. The disgraceful scenes which took place in this church, in 1831, need not be mentioned here. It is in agitation to destroy this venerable building, in order to make room for the great street, which is to extend from the *Louvre* to the site of the Bastille.

LA MADELEINE.—This beautiful building, no ways inferior in its exterior to the *Maison Carrée* of Reims, is at length completed. The chapel which at first occupied this ground being too small for the congregation, a new edifice was erected in 1660, and it became a parish church. The population still increasing, the building again became too small, and another was proposed, and, in 1764, the first stone was laid, and the church was rising from its foundation, upon the model of the *Pantheon* of Agrippa, when the resolution condemned it to be sold as national property. Many efforts were subsequently made to complete it as a library, a theatre, &c. At length Buonaparte resolved that it should become a *Temple of Glory*: the models were sent to him at Tilsit, and, among these, he fixed on that of M. Barthelmy Vignon. This gentleman swept away the whole of what had become picturesque ruins, around which goats and sheep were permitted to browse. The temple was to be decorated with statues of the marshals of France, and the most distinguished generals; tables of gold and silver, bronze, and marble were to be engraved in the walls, engraved with the details of the most renowned victories. When Louis XVIII. returned, in 1814, M. Vignon received orders to convert the temple into a church. The exterior, which is surrounded by a magnificent perystile of the Corinthian order, composed of fifty-two columns, sixty feet high, remained the same. Some difficulty arose in arranging the interior for a Catholic Christian church; but it has been surmounted, and *la Madeleine* stands conspicuous for an elegance and beauty which the ancients could not surpass.

LA CHAPELLE EXPIATOIRE, or *la Chapelle de Louis XVI.*, situated near the *Madeleine*, at the extremity of the *Rue-neuve-*

* The town hall of Birmingham is likewise built upon the model of the temple of *Jupiter Stator*.

des Mathurins, was erected by Louis XVIII. in expiation of the death of his unfortunate brother, Louis XVI. It is situated in one of the cemeteries made during the revolution, and where the remains of Louis, and his wife, Marie Antoinette, are supposed to have been found. The interior of the chapel is very plain; it contains an urn, in which is deposited the heart of Marie Antoinette, and the tomb of her husband; upon the latter his will is engraven. The outside of the building is remarkable for its simplicity; it is surrounded by posts and an iron chain, and cypress trees.

CIMETIERES.—There are five cimetières in the environs of Paris, destined to receive the bodies of those who die in the capital. One is particularly appropriated to those who die in the hospices, another to those who are executed. Those of *Mont-matre*, of *l'Est*, and of *Père la Chaise*, are open to every one. The latter is a very picturesque object, it is laid out in gravel walks, little gardens, and is ornamented with numerous tombs.

CATACOMBS.—In 1780, the inhabitants of Paris, terrified at the numerous accidents which had occurred in the cellars of several houses in the *Rue de la Lingerie*, from its contiguity to the *fosse*, destined to receive 2,000 bodies, addressed themselves to the *Lieutenant General de la Police*, pointing out the danger which threatened the health of the public by this nuisance, in which the number of bodies deposited was so great, that the earth, which scarcely covered them, was raised eight feet above the neighbouring habitations. M. Le Nair then pressed the subject, which he had before proposed, of emptying all the burial grounds in Paris, and carrying their contents to the catacombs, the origin of which is not ascertained. These catacombs consist of numerous subterraneous apartments, or galleries, in which the remains of humanity are symmetrically arranged; they present a gloomy picture; here and there passages from scripture are written, and the name of the church from which such and such heaps of bones have been collected. The catacombs have their entrances by the *Barrière d'Enfer*, by the tomb of *Issoire*, and by the plain of Mont Sours.

ARCS-DE-TRIOMPHE (Triumphal Arches).—*La Porte Saint Denis*, upon the Boulevard, erected in 1672, in honour of Louis XIV. is seventy-two feet wide, and seventy-three high; it is richly sculptured on both sides.

• **LA PORTE SAINT MARTIN** is not far from that of *Saint-Denis*, it was constructed in 1874; it commemorates the victories of Louis XIV. in the Low Countries.

ARC DE TRIOMPHE DU CAROUSEL.—This monument, which decorates the entrance to the *Thuilleries*, on the *Place du Caroussel*, was erected in 1806, upon the designs of M. M. Percier and Fontaine; in commemoration of the victories of *La grande armée*. It is upon the plan of the arch of Constantine, at Rome, and consists of three arches, the two lateral ones being smaller than the centre one. It is much ornamented, and upon its summit there formerly stood a car, to which was attached the horses brought from Venice, guided by Peace and Victory. At the grand hour of restoration, however, these horses were restored to their adopted country, Venice, which had received them, it is said, originally from Constantinople. On the top there are now four leaden horses, bronzed, guided by Fame, two looking one way and two the other.

• **ARC-DE-TRIOMPHE DE L'ETOILE.**—This arch decorates the entrance to the *Champs-Élysée*; it is not quite yet completed. It was beneath this arch that the *grande armée* entered Paris on its victorious return from *Eylau and Friedland*, after the peace of Tilsit, and that the army commanded by the *Duke d'Angoulême*, on its return from Spain, entered the capital likewise.

COLUMNS.—*Colonne de la Place Vendôme.*—This fine monument was erected to perpetuate the remembrance of the rapid conquests of 1805. It is a superb column, resembling that of Trajan, at Rome. The shaft is enveloped or encircled by a bas-relief, which winds round it two-and-twenty times, the extended length of which would be about 340 feet. The bas-reliefs, which are cast in bronze, made from the cannon captured at Ulm and Austerlitz, represent the principal circumstances which took place in 1805: the selection was made by

a statue of the

This statue, as, by the Allied

In 1813 her statue of the

Emperor, in the habit he usually wore, was, with much ceremony, raised to the summit of the column.

• **COLONNE DE LA VICTOIRE**, in the *Place du Châtelet*.—This column is placed in a large circular basin, twenty feet in diameter, ornamented with four cornucopia, from which issue four *Jets d'eau*; the shaft has the form of a palm-tree, divided at

intervals by bands, which bear the name of some grand battle gained by the French. The capital is formed of palm leaves, surmounted by a ball, on which stands a figure of Fame in lead, gilt, presenting crowns. It is sometimes called the fountain of the palm-tree.



OBELISK OF LUXOR.—This obelisk is still in its wooden case, on the banks of the Seine; but it is intended to be erected in the *Place de la Concorde*, a place now surrounded by buildings of interest and beauty. It is of an obelisk form, the four principal sides of equal length; the four pavilions at the corners form the lesser lines of the figure. Along the north side is the *garde-meuble*; to the south, the portico of the *Palais des Députés* and the bridge of *Concorde*, with its statues; and to the east, the terraces of the *Thuileries*. But, it is still more remarkable as the dreadful scene in which, during fifteen months, the guillotine was permanently erected, and here Louis XVI., his wife, his sister, with a host of nobles and private individuals, distinguished by their rank and fortunes, fell victims to the lawless spirit of despotism, the despotism of liberty, as it was impiously called.

LA COLONNE DE LA HALLE AU BLÉ is ninety-five feet high; it is the ancient observatory of *Catharine de Medicis*, in the gar-

den of the *Hôtel de Soissons*, and is the only remains of that fine palace.

PLACES (Squares).—**LA PLACE VENDÔME** occupies the site of a Convent of Capuchins, and the *Hôtel des Comtes de Vendôme*, demolished by order of *Louvois*, minister of Louis XIV. In the middle of this square stands the Colonne Vendôme, where a statue of Louis XIV. formerly stood. It is seventy-five metres in length, and seventy-two broad.

LA PLACE DES VICTOIRES is of a circular form, forty toises in diameter. The statue of Louis XIV., surrounded by emblematical emblems and allegorical groups, representing his great actions, was placed in its centre in 1691. In 1792 this statue was destroyed. It was succeeded by an obelisk to the glory of the French arms; afterwards by another monument to the memory of Generals *Dessaix* and *Kleber*; then a whimsical monument of the former appeared, which was consigned to oblivion, and the figure of Louis XIV., on horseback, now ornaments the centre of the *Place des Victoires*. ‘*Sit gloria transit!*’

LA PLACE LOUIS QUINZE separates the *Champs Elysées* from the garden of the *Tuilleries*. It is of an octagonal form. In 1772, the city of Paris erected, in the centre, a statue of Louis XV., which was overthrown in 1792, and the place was called *Place Revolutionnaire*. It was on this spot that the scaffold was erected for the execution of Louis XVI. Its name was subsequently changed to that of *Place de la Concorde*, but it has resumed, of late years, its original denomination. It is surrounded by fosses (ditch), along which there is a stone palisade. On the side of the boulevards it is terminated by two handsome buildings, one of which is occupied by the *Ministre du Marin*. At the opposite extremity is the *Pont Louis XVI.*, and, beyond that, the northern front of the Chamber of Deputies. In the middle is to be the obelisk of Luxor.

PALACES.—**LOUVRE.**—The origin of this palace is not perfectly decided; but that it existed in the time of Philippe Auguste is ascertained, and that it was then called *Louvre*. In 1528, Francis I. began the present edifice; his son Henry II. partly finished it. Louis XII. built the *Pavillon de l'Horloge*; but it was Louis XIV. who gave it its most beautiful ornament,

* The word *Louvre* is by some said to be derived from *Lupræ*, a place for hunting the wolf (*loup*), and by others from the Saxon word *lower*, which signifies chateau, or castle.

the famous colonnade, of which Claude Perrault was the architect. Charles IX. and Henry IV. made the Louvre their place of residence. It has since been appropriated to the exhibition of the products of industry.

TUILLERIES.—This celebrated edifice was commenced by Catherine de Medicis, on a spot formerly occupied by a manufacture of tiles (*tuiles*), hence its name. It is composed of one large pavillion, in the middle, called, *Pavillon de l'Horloge*, two lateral wings, the *Pavillons Mersan* and *Flore*. This edifice, whimsical in its details, is majestic as a mass. Towards the Louvre extends the gallery opposite the Seine, which contains the *Musée de Peinture*. The gallery opposite to this is not yet completed. The gardens of the *Tuilleries*, planted in 1665, upon the designs of Le Nôtre, are 1500 toises long; their breadth, which is that of the Palace, 168 toises. The historical associations connected with the palaces of Paris are so intermingled with the history of France, that it would be an endless task to attempt to enumerate them.

LUXEMBOURG.—This palace was built, in 1615, by Marie de Medicis, wife of Henry IV., upon the designs of Desbrosses, in imitation of the celebrated palace of Pitti, at Florence. In 1793 it was converted into a prison. In this fine building the Directory and the Senate held their sittings, and it was here that Buonaparte was received on his return from his triumphant campaign in Italy. The peers of France now occupy it. The gardens of the *Luxembourg* rival those of the *Tuilleries*.

PALAIS ROYAL.—Cardinal Richelieu laid the foundations of this palace in 1629, which he called *Palais Cardinal*. In the time of the Republic it received the alternate name of *Palais Egalité* and *Palais du Tribunal*. The gallery, of wood, which was formerly exceedingly ugly, has been replaced by one in stone, and the palace has, in many respects, undergone great improvements of late years. It contains the *Orleans* gallery of pictures, the private property of the present king, Louis Philippe. Shops of the most splendid description, gaming houses, coffee houses, &c., form a part of this palace, on the lower stories; and gardens tasteful, but not extensive, form a delightful promenade for the Parisians.

CHAMBRE DES DEPUTES.—The Duchess Dowager of Bourbon commenced the erection of this edifice in 1722, which has undergone many alterations. The front, which is opposite the *Quai*,

was reconstructed by *Napoleon*. It presents a portico, formed of a single row of pillars, which is ascended by a perron* of thirty steps, decorated with colossal statues of *Sully*, *Daguesseau*, *C Colbert*, and *L'Hopital*. The hall, in which the public sittings are held, has been recently constructed; it cost 5,000,000 francs. It was in a wooden barrack, attached to this palace, that the Duke of *Orléans* took the oath, as King of the French, on the 9th of August, 1830.

ELYSEE BOURBON.—This palace is situated in the *Rue St. Honoré*. It was erected by the *Comte d'Evreux*, in 1718. It belonged successively to *Louis XV.*, *M. de Beaujeu*, *Madame la Duchesse de Bourbon*, and to *Murat*! It was in this palace *Napoleon* signed his abdication, after the battle of *Waterloo*. *Louis XVIII.* gave it, the following year, to the Duke of *Berry*, who resided in it until 1820, when he was assassinated.

PALAIS DE JUSTICE.—This mass of building was commenced by the monarchs of the first race, and was repaired by those of the third race; the first twelve of whom made it their residence. The hall, actually occupied by *la Cour de Cassation*, was formerly called *Grand Chambre de Saint Louis*, and underneath the *salle des pas perdus*† is an apartment still called *cuisine de St. Louis*. The principal entrance to the edifice is on the eastern side, in front of which is an iron palisade, richly ornamented, and supported by pilasters of the Ionic order, and in the same metal. On each side of this railing advance the two wings of the building; beyond the court a perion presents itself, in the open air, which leads to a portico, formed by four pillars of the Ionic order. The interior of the edifice is composed of a confused succession of corridors, straight and crooked passages, and numberless staircases. It is a perfect labyrinth, in which Justice might occasionally have some difficulty to make her way. The *salle des pas perdus*, constructed by *Desbrosses*, is composed of two parallel aisles, having a vaulted roof, which is divided by a splendid row of pillars.

CASERNES.—There are forty-eight barracks (*casernes*) in Paris.

* Perron is the word expressive, in architecture, of the ascent of steps before a portico.

† It is called the *Salle des pas perdus* because it is here the barristers who lack briefs pace backwards and forwards, anxiously, and often fruitlessly, hoping some unforeseen event may procure a client.

The most remarkable are those of *l'Ave Maria*, which formerly belonged to a society of *Bequine* nuns; that of the *Rue de Tournon*, of the *Quai d'Orsay*; that of the *Celestines*, which, after belonging to monks of the order of *Cîteaux*, was converted into an *Aspice*, for medical electricity, then an asylum for the deaf and dumb, and, finally, it has become a dwelling for soldiers.

HOTEL DES INVALIDES.—This magnificent edifice, situated on the left bank of the Seine, and founded by Louis XIV., occupies, with its dependencies, a site of 19,000 toises. The dome, which rises in the middle, eighty feet in diameter, occupied *Mansart* thirty years; the point of the spire which surmounts it is 323 feet above the ground. The esplanade, opposite the Seine, is furnished with cannon, among which the sculptured culverins, taken at Algiers, are conspicuous. Two halls in this building are ornamented with the whole-length portraits of the Marshals of France. In the middle *parillon* is the fine library, containing 20,000 volumes; and in the buildings on the right are contained the models, in relief, of the principal strong places in France. The *Hôtel des Invalides* is calculated to accommodate 7,000 invalid or aged soldiers. From the dome, before the Restoration, was suspended 1400 colours, taken from the enemy. Marshal *Serrurier* caused them to be burnt, and thrown into the Seine; but some of their remains were carefully collected, and an idea was afloat that a monument should be erected, on which they were to be deposited.

HOTEL DE VILLE.—The first house in which the *Hanse* de Paris* held their sittings, was situated in the *Voûte de la Misère*, near the *Grand Châtelet*: it was called *Maison de la Marchandise*. It was afterwards transferred to another house, called *Pâquier des Bourgeois*, and subsequently to the neighbourhood of the enclosure des *Jacobins*, between *la place Saint Michel* and the *rue Saint Jacques*.

It was not until 1357 that the Burgesses of Paris purchased a house on the *Place de la Grève*, which they called *Maison aux Piliers*, because it was erected on piles. This house only differed from those which surrounded it, by two towers. On the 15th of July, 1533, *Pierre de Viole* laid the first stone of an edifice which was never completed. In 1549, an Italian architect, named

* *Hanse*, a term applied formerly to a society of merchants; hence the term, *Hanse Towns*.

Dominique Boccordo, presented a plan to Henry II., which was adopted, and completed under Henry IV.; and this is the present *Hôtel de Ville*, of Paris, so closely allied with the domestic history of France.

The front is flanked by two pavilions, higher than the body of the building. It is ornamented by many niches and statues. A turret in the middle contains a clock, the work of the celebrated *Jean André Lepante*. This clock is illuminated at night. The Corinthian order has been employed in the lower story, but the building is too much surcharged with little ornaments to present a commanding aspect. A statue of Louis XIV. formerly adorned the court: he was in a Grecian costume, except his head, which was covered with an enormous wig. The interior of the edifice contains many large apartments, the finest and most celebrated of which is the *Salle du trône*. At the two extremities of this apartment there are two vast chimney-pieces, ornamented with Persians,* bronze Caryatides, and allegorical figures, reposing upon inclined planes. They are of the time of Henry IV. In 1819, a statue of this monarch was placed in the centre of this apartment. It is in this hall that all the civic fêtes, balls, and

* The Persians are so called, from a victory gained over the Persians by Pausanias, who, having brought home spoils and trophies to the Athenians, they fixed upon Persian figures for those which should support entablatures, and thus kept in mind that there were once Persian slaves in Athens. To represent these conquered people in the lowest state possible, they loaded them with the heaviest entablature, viz., that of the Doric order. In process of time, however, other figures, besides those of Persians, were introduced, and other entablatures put over them, but the name was still retained.

The proper Caryatides are women, dressed in long robes, after the Asiatic manner, and the origin of the device was as follows:—The Carians had been long at war with the Athenians, but being at length totally vanquished, their wives were led away captive, and to perpetuate the memory of this event, trophies were erected, in which figures of women, dressed in the Caryatic manner, were used to support entablatures, like the Persians; and though other female figures were afterwards used in the same manner, the name of Caryatides was always retained.

The ancients made frequent use of Persians and Caryatides, and delighted in diversifying them a thousand ways. The modern artists have followed their example; and there is a great variety of compositions of this kind to be met with in different parts of Europe.

public ceremonies of the city are celebrated. Next the *salle du trone* is the *salle du zodiaque*, ornamented with bas-reliefs and pictures which relate to its name.

In 1801, the office of the Prefecture of the department of *la Seine* was removed to the *Hotel de Ville*. The building was at this period greatly enlarged. Upon the site of the *Hotel Saint Esprit* the private house of the Prefet was constructed. It contains three apartments, namely, the *salle de billiard*, *le salle de reception*, and the antichamber, which are all fitted up in the same manner, and are separated by a moveable partition only, so that, upon any great occasion, they may be removed, and it is then denominated the *salle des fastes*. In the apartments of the *Hotel de Ville* several societies of the sciences and beaux arts assemble.

The history of the *Hotel de Ville* is that of Paris; but perhaps there are no recollections attached to it more interesting, more thrilling, or more appalling, than those connected with the revolution of 1798, and following years.

THE HOTEL SOUBISE is situated in the *rue du Chaume*, and occupies the space between the *rue de Paradis* and the *rue du Grand Chantier*. It is remarkable for a round tower, terminating in a point. It was built in 1556, by Cardinal Charles and the Duc de Guise, who spared neither money nor labour in its construction; and after it fell into the hands of the Prince of Soubise, it received many additional ornaments. The court, and its magnificent portico, which are still standing, were erected by him. It is composed of Corinthian columns, surmounted by a cornice richly adorned with trophies. The interior apartments were furnished with much magnificence, but this has disappeared with its inhabitants. The edifice is, indeed, appropriated to a national object. In the year 1790 a decree was passed by the Constituent Assembly, that all the charters, acts, titles, whether relating to the administration of the kingdom, whether to religious houses, provinces, or private individuals, should be collected into one focus, and should be deposited in the Convent of the Capuchins, in the *rue St. Honoré*, which was denominated *Hotel des Archives de Royaume*: from thence they were translated to the *Thuilleries*, where they remained until the year 1810, when they were deposited in the *Hotel Soubise*, where they still remain.

Many of these documents are exceedingly interesting and curious. There is one charter bearing the date of 620; it is written on papyrus, and relates to a gift made by Clotaire to *l'Abbaye de Saint Denis*.

L'ŒUVRE.—This is a small establishment in Paris, supported by the charity of individuals. About the middle of the last century, the *Abbé Ponthriand* having entered into conversation with a Savoyard who was blacking his shoes, he was much affected at the forlorn state the youth described of those mountaineers, who quit their country in early childhood, and travel over Europe for a scanty subsistence, and made a vow to devote his fortune and personal exertions to their alleviation and religious instruction. He was succeeded in these pious offices by *l'Abbé de l'Énelon*, who devoted his whole time to *sa petite famille*, as he called them. The revolution of 1789, which spared neither sex, age, nor condition, dragged the venerable man from the midst of his adopted children, whose tears could not defend their benefactor. He was dragged to the same scaffold upon which Louis XVI. had been murdered. About eight years ago the *Abbé Dural* re-established the humble asylum of the little Savoyards. A number of the younger children are employed in the manufacture of cards, for wool. In the house in which the workshop is established, a dozen of the least children are provided with beds, food, and raiment. The elder ones here assemble to repeat their catechism, and undergo religious examinations, previous to their receiving the first communion. The funds at present are so small, that the Abbé has been unable to accomplish a plan he has much at heart, that of laying in a large store of tools suitable to their various employments, and the more important object of providing *dortoirs* (sleeping rooms) for many of these poor children, who pass their nights on the steps of doors, or lie cruddled together in close unwholesome rooms.

M. Guirard, from whose works these accounts are taken, is a poet. He published a beautiful little poem, in three parts, called *Le petit Savoyard*, the profits of which were appropriated to the benefit of *l'Œuvre*. On the first celebration of the communion by the elder Savoyards, they invited him to be present, and waited upon him for that purpose, as a token of their gratitude.

HOSPITALS.—Paris contains twenty hospitals and *hospices*, or infirmaries, which make up 15,000 beds. These hospitals are

open to individuals of every country; those of the departments are confined chiefly to the inhabitants of that department.* The hospitals of Paris are principally appropriated to particular diseases: they are much frequented by the students of the *Faculté de Médecine*. Among the principal *hospices* are *l'Hotel Dieu*, upon the open space before *Notre Dame*, founded by *Saint-Laudry* in 656; it contains 1,260 beds. *L'Hopital Saint-Louis*, (in the *Fauxbourg du Temple*), owes its origin to Henry IV., in 1612: that of the *Enfans Trouvés*, is the work of *Saint-Vincent de Paul*. Until 1640, the foundling children were received at *Saint-Laudry*, where they were sold for twenty-four sous each! A financier, of the name of *Beaujon*, founded the hospital called *Hopital Beaujon*, and endowed it with 20,000 francs of annual rent: it contains 160 beds. *L'Hospice de la Salpetriere*, founded in 1656 by Louis XIV., occupies a

* From official returns at the Bureau of the Prefet of the Seine, that in 1833, the receipts for the support of the Parisian hospitals and infirmaries amounted to 10,186,388 francs. The resources from which they derive their support are, rents, (*loyers fermages*); government grants, (*rentes sur l'Etat*); contribution of the city of Paris, individual aids (*rentes sur les particuliers*); *Mont de Pieté*, (licensed 'pawnbrokers' shops); the theatres; and a certain sum is drawn from the departments for the support of the foundlings. The expences are those incurred for food and bed-clothes, and medical treatment of the poor. In many cases, the patients provide themselves; that is to say, they pay a certain sum for their maintenance and medical advice. These houses are appropriated to three different purposes:—first, the hospitals for the sick; these are thirteen in number, containing 5,337 beds; eleven *hospices*, or infirmaries, for the old and infirm, and for orphans;—the beds, 17,077.

Under the second head may be classed the relief given at certain asylums and schools; and under the third class, are the foundling establishments, which are well regulated and extensive: the children are deposited in a kind of cradle, a bell is rung, and the child is admitted, without any inquiry as to who it is or from whence it comes.

The poor in France amount to about 1,600,000, out of a population of 32,000,000 of inhabitants, or one in twenty; and the agricultural population, compared with the manufacturing, is as four to one. France has been divided into three regions of pauperism, shewing that one-thirtieth of the people of France are destitute. In England, the poor amount to 3,500,000, out of a population of 20,400,000; the agricultural and the manufacturing population are in the ratio of two to three, and the work performed by machinery exceeds that of 800,000,000 workmen.

surface of 330,000 feet: its front, upon the Boulevard, extends 600 feet. It is a kind of town in itself, peopled with 5,000 inhabitants, one quarter of which is reserved for deranged females. *L'Hopital-du-val-de-Grace*, constructed in 1645, was first of all a nunnery; the church, one of the finest in Paris, is covered with an elevated dome, the cupola of which, painted by Mignord, is considered one of the finest specimens of fresco painting in Europe: this hospital is consecrated to the military. The *Hospice-des-Quinzevingts*, in the *Rue de Charenton*, was founded in 1660, for fifteen times twenty, or 300 individuals; hence its name. Persons who are struck blind are only admitted. This institution may be traced back to the time of the Crusades, particularly that of Saint Louis, when very many private individuals, soldiers, and a number of knights, returned to their native country deprived of sight, from the ophthalmia, so common on the banks of the Nile.

Société de la Charité Maternelle.—This society commenced its charitable functions on the 13th February, 1789. It was established for the purpose of assisting poor women in their confinement, and to encourage them subsequently to nurse their own children, by allowing them five francs a month during fifteen months, and providing them with linen, and every mother who is desirous of partaking of the benefits of this society, must present herself a month before her confinement, at the establishment, at number 5, *Rue Coq-Héron*, when she must present a certificate of her good conduct, of her marriage, and of her poverty. There are auxiliary societies of this establishment at most of the principal cities in France.

But besides these public asylums for the sick, and aged, and helpless, there are, in most of the towns and cities of France, the *Soeurs de la Charité*, who visit and nurse the sick at their own houses, and instruct the poor children gratis: these Sisters of Charity were the only religious community who were permitted to live unmolested, and wear their habit, when monks and nuns of every other description were driven from their habitations, and compelled numbers of them to seek an asylum in a foreign land.

There are also asylums for the deaf and dumb, blind, &c.; besides which, every faubourg possesses almshouses for the aged and decrepid of both sexes.

THE BANK OF FRANCE.—This establishment was founded in 1800; a law passed on the 14th April, 1803, endowed it with the power of issuing bills payable to the bearer at sight. On the 22d April, 1806, this privilege was extended, by a new law, until 22d September, 1843.

The capital of the Bank was at first 45,000,000, divided into shares of 1,000 francs. In 1808, the government authorised the issue of 45,000 new bills, each of the value of 1,200 francs. The Bank having, since this epoch, redeemed 22,100 of these bills, there were only 67,900 in circulation on the 31st December, 1833.

Every year the proprietors are assembled, when the governor, in the name of the Council General, submits all the accounts for inspection.

At Bordeaux, Nantes, and Rouen, there are banks which issue bills payable to the bearer at sight.

SAVING FUND.—This establishment is of infinite service to the labouring classes, for it enables them not only to deposit their hard-earned savings in a place of security, but also to receive an interest of four per cent. upon it; which, if they please, may be added to the capital. The deposit cannot be less than a franc, nor more than fifty francs, and the highest sum that can be entered in one name is 2,000 francs. These sums may be withdrawn in part, or as a whole, upon giving five days' notice.

The deposits are entered on Sundays and Mondays at the *Caisse centrale* of the hotel of the Bank, and at three other offices,—in the *Place Royale*, *Rue Garancière*, and *Rue St. Martin*. Four new *caisses* were established in 1834; one at *Saint Denis*, one at *Neuilly*, *Montrouge*, and *Charenton*. In 1832, the receipts amounted to 3,613,000 francs; in 1834 the sum amounted to 17,269,226 francs, and the profits of the lottery have decreased in proportion.

MONT DE PIÉTÉ.—This establishment is in the *Rue des Blancs Manteaux*: it has a façade in *Rue des Petits Augustins*, and twenty-three offices in divers parts of Paris. Its object is to lend

* Savings' Banks continue to increase in France. There are now 125 banks duly authorized and established, of which 101 have paid sums into the Treasury. The sum paid in during one month amounted to 2,207,000 francs; and, in 1835, the savings had in the Treasury a total of 52,249,000 francs.

money upon articles, which are pledged for its return. The borrower may leave them in pledge for thirteen months: if they be not redeemed in that time, they are sold, and the bonus, if there be any, is given to the former proprietor. The money lent in the course of the year amounts to about 20,000,000 francs, upon 1,200,000 articles of deposit. The capital of the *Mont de Piété* is 16,250,000 francs. The profits realised in this establishment do not exceed 100,000 francs, upon funds of 20,000,000, and these profits are deposited in the chests of the different *hospices* or alms-houses.

HÔTEL DES MONNAIES (The Mint).—The front of this building is ornamented with columns and allegorical figures; it was constructed in 1771, upon the spot occupied formerly by the *Hôtel de Nesle*. The Abbé Terray, Minister of State, placed the first stone in the name of the king.

It is situated on the left bank of the Seine, and is not less remarkable for the distribution of its interior arrangements, than for its external beauty. The present weights and machines of this establishment were founded by *Napoleon Buonaparte*, and are constructed of twelve of the cannon taken at *Austerlitz*, the name of which place is engraven on them.

The following cities have the privilege of coining money in France. On one side of the coin there is the impression of a letter, and on the reverse an emblem:—

Paris.....	A.	An anchor and a C interlaced.
Rouen	B.	A lamb bearing a cross.
Lyon	D.	The ark of Noah.
La Rochelle. H.	.....	A trident.
Limoges....	I.	Two hands joined.
Bordeaux ..	K.	A vine leaf.
Bayonne ..	L.	A tulip.
Toulouse ..	M.	A T and a C interlaced.
Perpignan ..	Q.	A bunch of grapes.
Nantes	T.	A branch of olive.
Strasbourg.	BB.	A beaver.
Marseille ..	M.A.	interwined. A palm-tree.
Lille	W.	A caduceus.

BOURSE (The Exchange).—The erection of this splendid edifice was commenced in 1808, from the designs of *Bonguart*,

and was completed under the direction of Laborre. Its form is that of a parallelogram of 126 feet by 212. The pediment is supported by sixty-four Corinthian pillars. The interior is admirably laid out for the accommodation and speedy execution of business. The vast and superb enclosure, where the merchants assemble, is ornamented with paintings in fresco, which are the admiration of connoisseurs.

BIBLIOTHEQUE ROYALE (Royal Library).—The kings of the first and second race had no libraries. Charlemagne endeavoured to collect a few books, and to revive the Augustan age: but in vain did Alucin and Eginhard exert themselves for this purpose: after his death, the civil and foreign wars drove Cicero, Demosthenes, &c., to seek refuge in the solitude of the monasteries. Saint Louis, indeed, collected a few books, which he bequeathed to different convents. John possessed six volumes on history and the sciences, and four on religion. Charles V. greatly augmented this royal collection; and, when he died, he left 910 volumes, which were deposited in three stories in one of the towers of the Louvre, which was called *Tour de la Librairie*. During the reign of Charles VI., these books were dispersed. The Duke of Bedford, during his stay at Paris, bought the greater part of them for 1,200 livres, and sent them to London, as well as all the charters of the kingdom. Although Louis XII., Charles VIII., and Francis I., made great collections from Italy; and, moreover, he brought those of Blois and Fontainebleau to Paris, and deposited them in one spot; yet there were but 200 printed volumes in the reign of Henry II. (1556); at which period, by the counsels of the *Avocat Général Spifame*, the King ordered that every bookseller in Paris, on publishing a book, should be required to present one copy of it, printed on vellum, to the library of the King. Louis XIII. enriched it with many Persian volumes; and it was then transferred to the *Rue de la Harpe*. At the death of Louis XIV. it contained 70,000 volumes; and he was the first who enriched the royal library with engravings, prints, maps, and plans.

In 1721 the Regent, the Duke of Orleans, by the advice of the Abbé Bignon, placed it where it now is, between the *Rues Vivienne* and *Richelieu* on one side, and the *Rues Colbert* and *Petit Champs* on the other.

FRENCH LIBRARIES.—A calculation has recently been made of the number of libraries in the whole of the French departments, with the exception of the department of the Seine. In these eighty-five departments, it appears that there are altogether 192 towns which possess public libraries; the most important of which are, those of Troyes, containing 50,000 volumes; Marseilles, 35,000; Aix, 75,000; Caen, 40,000; Besançon, 56,000; Bordeaux, 115,000; Versailles, 45,000; Rouen, 28,000; Amiens, 48,000 volumes: 822 towns, of from 3,000 to 18,000 inhabitants each, are, it seems, entirely destitute of public libraries; while the 192 towns which have establishments of this kind, can boast of the possession of between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 of volumes; a number which, compared to the total population of the eighty-five departments, gives just one volume to fifteen persons. In the city of Paris there are five public libraries, which contain altogether 1,378,000 volumes, or three volumes to every two inhabitants.

IMPRIMERIE ROYALE (Royal Printing Office).—This establishment is expressly devoted to the publication of all the government acts, and official documents of the administration. It also publishes those works which are gratuitously directed by a special committee. It is the only office at which publications requiring the Oriental character can be printed.

The annual expenses of the Royal Printing Office are calculated at 1,852,390, and the receipts at 2,048,000 francs. This important and splendid establishment is under the direction of the Minister of Justice.

COFFEE-HOUSES.—There are 3,000 coffee-houses in Paris, some of them fitted up with Oriental splendour. Early in the seventeenth century, a Levantine opened a shop under the *Petit Chatelet*, in which he sold the beverage of coffee, calling it *cahové*, or *cahout*; but it was not until the year 1669 that coffee became a favourite with persons in the higher ranks of life: it was introduced by Soliman Aga, at that period ambassador from the Ottoman Porte to Louis XIV. He lived in great magnificence: young and handsome slaves attended with the finest napkins, fringed with gold, which they handed to the ladies, previous to their presenting coffee, in the richest and most beautiful china cups: it then became *distingué* to offer coffee to morning visitors; since which time, it has gradually extended to

all ranks of society,* and has, in fact, become one of the necessities of life.

FOUNTAINS.—Paris contains eighty-five fountains, many of them exceedingly beautiful; of these, the *Fontaine des Innocens* is one of the most conspicuous. In 1788, this fountain, which was at that time attached to the angle of the Rue St. Denis, was removed to the middle of the *Marché des Innocens*. This spot of ground was formerly a *cimetière* belonging to the church des *Innocens*; on one side of this church, within the nave, was a small gloomy apartment of a few feet square, into which a few dim rays of light passed through a small grating. The inhabitant of this dismal chamber was called *la recluse*: she was either some poor deluded fanatic, who voluntarily submitted to be thus entombed, or she was a criminal, whom the parliament had condemned to this living death, as an expiation of her crime. The names of two voluntary victims are alone upon record. The church and the *cimetière* have disappeared, and a handsome and well stocked market occupies its site, which the *Fontaine des Innocens* contributes not a little to adorn. The fourth side of this fountain, which it was necessary to add, in 1788, in order to give it uniformity, is admirably executed. Eight Nereids occupy the space between the pillars of the four arches; and the flowing

Mr. Schenabeddin, an Arabian author of the fifteenth century, gives the following account of the discovery of the properties of this beautiful plant. A devout Moulah, being exceedingly disturbed at the drowsiness which sometimes overcame him when exercising his prolonged devotions, learnt accidentally from a goatherd, that there was a plant, upon which his goats sometimes browsed, that made them particularly lively and fishy, the seeds of which they were very fond of. The Moulah was impatient to see the plant; the goatherd pointed out a dwarf shrub, bearing bright dark glossy leaves, clusters of jessamine-like flowers, and yellow seed-berries. The Moulah made a decoction from the berries, which he drank, and passed the night in a state of delicious delirium which enchanted him. He imparted the secret to his dervishes; but it transpired in the course of time, and rich and poor, old and young, eagerly sought the spirit-infusing beverage: shops were opened, apartments were prepared, games of chance and skill were introduced; and, finally, scandal, and at last politics, were discussed under the influence of *coffee*. Edicts were now passed, forbidding coffee to be sold; the shops were shut, the vendors punished; but the inspiring effects of *coffee* were stronger than the edicts of government,—they indeed served to heighten its flavour, because *forbidden fruit is sweetest!*

waters of this fountain, whether illumined by summer sun, or when frozen by the winter frost, present a very pleasing object.

The CHATEAU D'EAU, which ornaments the *Boulevard de Bendi*, is likewise a very handsome fountain; it was completed in 1810: it consists of three basins, placed one above the other in a pyramidal form, from which the waters rise and fall into a large basin; round the broad edge of this basin repose eight lions, the water issuing from their mouths, and falling into a circular basin at the bottom. This fountain is in imitation of the fountain of Lions in the Alhambra, so celebrated for the murder of the Abencerrages.

The FOUNTAIN OF LEDA, in the street *du Regard*, fauxbourg *St. Germain*, and that of *Gaillon*, which is placed between the streets *Port Mahon* and *de la Michodière*, are elegant structures. The sewers of Paris carry daily to the Seine about 180 cubic metres of water, proceeding from rain and the fountains.

ROADS.—Paris is the central point from whence all the royal roads diverge, and it is from the square opposite *Notre Dame* that all the distances from the capital are measured. Thirteen royal and seventy-seven departmental roads traverse this small department.

PUBLIC CARRIAGES.—It was in the time of Charles IX. that public carriages were established in Paris. The coach-masters obtained licences from the king, that they might be protected from the *messagers* of the University and the *maîtres de poste* (postmasters). In 1575 Henry III. revoked all the commissions granted for the hire or letting of carriages, and appointed *Cordillac*, the *Seneschal* of *Quercy*, to name such persons as he deemed fit as coach-masters, at *Paris, Orleans, Troyes, Rouen, and Beauvais*. In 1594, Henry IV. created the office of *Commissionnaire General* and *Surintendent* of the public carriages. In 1676 Louis XIV. ordered that all the coach proprietors of the different coach offices should be indemnified to the full amount, and then dismissed, and those even belonging to the University, placing the public carriages under the management of the *Farmer General of the Posts of France*. From this period the coach-offices have been decorated and designated with the title of *Messageries Royales*.

In 1678, an ordinance determined the functions of the *Messagers, maîtres de coches et corrosses, voituriers, rouleurs* (wagoners), and others; it exempted the *fermiers* and clerks from having soldiers billeted upon them, from the collection of the royal trea-

sure, &c. &c. In 1681, a new ordinance permitted them to wear a sword and other arms; dispensed them from the tax called *Corvée*, and from serving in the militia, and forbade the collectors of taxes from entering their names on the list of taxes.

In 1775, Louis XVI., upon the report of his minister, Turgot, separated the *messageries* and diligences from the *Premier Generale des Postes*. Turgot, in 1775, organised a complete system for the government of public carriages, to which he united the government of "passage boats, and all the public conveyances upon the rivers of the kingdom, and canals." The government derived from this system a revenue of 900,000 livres per annum. In 1789, this revenue amounted to 1,100,000 livres, at which period the carriages proceeded at the rate of fifteen leagues in twenty-four hours; the price of places was one franc the league, and the number of seats was eight. But the revolution overthrew all this establishment; since which the mode of travelling, and the accommodation, have greatly improved, although, when compared to that in England, it is still in its infancy. The following table will give some idea of the progressive increase of the price, of the accommodation, of the speed, of the carriages, and of the number of carriages employed.

Years.	Number of travellers by carriages of the largest dimensions.	Price of places by the league.	Minutes by the league.	Price of the conveyance of merchandise, by the kilogramme, for 100 leagues.	Number of leagues in twenty-four hours.	Number of carriages quitting Paris at stated hours.	Number of travellers they accommodate in a day.	Quantity of merchandise, (in kilog.,) that is daily conveyed by the whole of these carriages.
1810	11	75	45	80	30	30	280	21,000
1815	15	70	40	70	40	40	400	28,000
1820	18	65	30	60	48	60	720	39,000
1825	18	60	30	40	48	65	800	42,250
1827	18	28	30	40	57	70	908	45,500
1832	18	45	26	40	57	70	900	45,500

These carriages pay taxes to the amount of 12,000,000 livres, out of which sum Paris pays one-third.

Besides these carriages there are, in Paris, 240 *omnibuses*.

under this name are included all those carriages employed to transport the inhabitants of the capital from one part of the city to another, for 30 centimes each individual. Every ten minutes some one of these omnibuses commences its beaten track; they contain fifteen places, all except those called the *tricycles*, which accommodate seventeen passengers. The amount of the receipts of these omnibuses is calculated at 16,800 francs. The number of horses employed is 750: the number of persons who are dependent upon these carriages is about 700. At a certain hour of the day a journal (newspaper) is distributed gratis in every one of these conveyances.* There are, at present, two *messageries* at Paris, denominated *royales*, although they are connected only by name with the king or the government. The one is situated in the *Rue neuve des Victoires*, and, from this street, it is called *Messagerie de la Rue des Victoires*; the other is in the *Rue l'Honoré*, and belongs to *Laffitte, Caillard, and Co.*: the former is considered the safest, because the government employs the conveyances of that office to transport money from one part of France to the other. They have a connection and correspondence with every part of Europe. Several attempts have been made to establish other offices, but they have all failed.

In the *Rue des Martyrs* there is an immense establishment of a very extraordinary nature, it is called *Etablissement d'Omnibus restaurants Café*. It has attached to it a number of omnibuses, filled with every kind of provision, dressed and undressed; these parade the streets from hour to hour, for the purpose of satisfying the appetites of those whose avocations impede their bestowing much time or thought on the affair of eating. This is indeed charity, to excite the want and gratify it at the same time. This reminds one of that curious country where the pigs run about with knives stuck in them, crying out, "Come, eat me."

GENERAL POST OFFICE, in the *Rue Jean Jacques Rousseau*.—Louis XI. was the first who established posts in France, in the year 1464. The edict that he published commanded the masters of the courriers not to let out on hire any horse without the king's permission, on pain of death. In 1719 the revenue of the posts

* It is not a little curious, that the celebrated *Pastor*, the author of *Lettres Provinciales*, conceived the idea of instituting this cheap and convenient mode of conveying and accommodating the industrious and poorer part of the community, but he could not carry his plan into effect.

and coach offices amounted to 3,472,000 francs; M. Necker reckoned it, in 1784, at 10,300,000 francs; three years after it amounted to twelve millions.

In 1815 the receipts of the posts increased to 19,364,724 fr.,	
In 1820	23,158,430
In 1825	27,272,247
In 1829	31,000,000
In 1833 (in the first six months)	17,428,000

Before the year 1819 the mail post was a cumbrous cart, with three horses, but since that period a light carriage has been adopted, with four horses. These are divided into three parts; one for travellers, one for the courier, and the third for the letters, newspapers, and despatches. Since the 1st of January, 1828, before which time the post was very uncertain, letters are delivered daily in all parts of the country.

Paris is the centre of the departures of the post. The thirteen great roads of *Besançon*, *Bordeaux*, *Brest*, *Caen*, *Calais*, *Clermont*, *Lille*, *Lyon*, *Mézières*, *Nantes*, *Rouen*, *Strasbourg*, and *Toulouse*, are called roads or posts of the first section.

There are nine posts of the second section, which fall into those of the first class, just described, viz. *Bordeaux* to *Bayonne*, *Chalons* to *Nancy*, *Bordeaux* to *Toulouse*, *Toulouse* to *Avignon*, *Troyes* to *Mülhausen*, *Moulins* to *Lyon*, *Lyon* to *Strasbourg*, *Lyon* to *Marseille*, *Toulouse* to *Bayonne*.

The *petite poste* to Paris was established in 1760, upon a plan proposed by Chamousset, Counsellor of Parliament. Postmen, on foot or on horseback, deliver the letters. It is calculated that 58,000 letters are delivered every day in Paris by the *petite poste*.

60,000 letters, 58,000 journals (newspapers), and 2,000 despatches, leave Paris every day for the départements.

Twenty post-offices round Paris and the towns of *Versailles* and *Saint Germain* communicate three times a-day with the capital; besides which, a double daily post, between Paris and all places within the radii of a circle twelve leagues round, has been also established. There is also a dead letter office, in which are deposited all letters unclaimed or sent back.

Two boats leave Toulon weekly, with letters for Corsica; the one to *Ajaccio*, the other to *Bastia*.

By a convention between the two governments of France and

England, in July, 1833, it was agreed that letters should be despatched daily from Paris to England, Scotland, and Ireland, so that they should reach London in thirty-six hours; and that letters from England should arrive in France every day, except Tuesday, the English post-office being always closed on Sunday.

France has also conventions of the same nature with most of the continental powers of Europe, except Spain, which has constantly refused to accede to any proposal of the kind.

Two packet-boats are appointed to communicate with Mexico, (*La Vera Cruz*), Rio Janeiro, and Buenos Ayres. Each letter pays 1 fr. 50 cent. The expense of every letter in France depends upon the weight.

A much quicker way of receiving intelligence has, however, been adopted, by means of telegraphs, which are by some persons said to be a modern invention, while others again affirm they were known to the ancients. Be that as it may, the adoption of this extraordinary mode of communication is of inconceivable utility, and, as proof of this, the mention of a few of these dumb-speaking pieces of mechanism, will be sufficient.

From Calais to Paris, a distance of sixty-eight leagues, intelligence can be received, by means of twenty-seven telegraphs, in three minutes.

From Lille to Paris, a distance of fifty-five leagues, by twenty-two telegraphs, in two minutes.

From Lyon to Paris, a distance of 111 leagues, intelligence can be received, by eighty telegraphs, in eight minutes.

From Strasbourg to Paris, a distance of 116 leagues, by forty-five telegraphs, in six minutes and a half.

BRIDGES.—There are twenty bridges in Paris, the principal of which are as follow :

LE PONT LOUIS XVI., or *De la Concorde*, which leads to the Chamber of Deputies, was built by Peyronnet, and finished in 1790. It is ornamented with twelve statues, placed on elevated pedestals. They represent Condé, Turenne, Bayard, Duguesclin, Suger, Richlieu, Sully, Duquay Trouin, Jean Bart, Duquesne, Suffren, and Tourville.

LE PONT DE JENAI, situated in front of the *Champ de Mars*, was begun in 1809, and finished in 1813. It is built of free stone, and has five arches, of which the mean diameter is twenty-eight metres. Louis XVIII. endeavoured to change the name

to that of the *Pont des Invalides*, but the Parisians have retained its original name.

LE PONT DES ARTS, built after the plan of M. Dillon, was finished in 1804. The piles and the arches next to the land are of stone, and the centre ones of cast iron—nine in number. Its length is 516 feet, and its breadth 30 feet; the foot-path is of wood. This bridge is only for foot passengers.

LE PONT D'AUSTERLITZ has five arches, of iron, supported by piles, and the arches next to the land are of free-stone. Its length is 400 feet, and its width 37 feet. It was begun in 1801, and finished in 1806, after the plan of M. *Becquy Beaupré*.

Besides these iron bridges, Paris has two suspension bridges, one called *Invalides*, that joins the *Quay d'Orsay* to the *Champs Élysées*. The pavement is supported by chains of iron. It has three arches. The other, *Le Pont d'Arcole*, *Place de l'Hotel de Ville*, has only two arches, and one pillar placed in the middle of the river. This bridge, being supported by iron chains, has a light appearance.

THE PONT NEUF.—The first stone of this bridge was laid 31st May, 1578, by Henry III. The architect was the celebrated *André du Cerceau*, whose talent and genius procured him the distinction of being appointed the king's architect. But the troubles of the times interrupted the prosecution of the work, and it was not until 1602 that it was resumed, under *Charles Marchand*. On the 20th June, of the following year, Henry IV. passed over it, although he was strongly urged to avoid the danger of such an attempt; and to strengthen the arguments against the undertaking, the king was informed that many persons had broken their necks, and fallen into the river. To which he briefly replied, that "There was not one king among the number." In 1604 it was traversable, but it was not completed until 1697. In 1775 this bridge was repaired, and within the abutments small stone houses were constructed, and this was a great improvement. The Pont Neuf was formerly the resort of quacks, conjurers, and their usual attendants, pickpockets.

The history of the statue of Henry IV., which adorns it, is this: Ferdinand, Grand Duke of Tuscany, gave orders to *Jean de Boulengne*, pupil of Michael Angelo, to cast a statue, in bronze, of a colossal horse, upon which the figure of the duke was to be placed; but Ferdinand dying, the horse remained without a

rider, and was offered by Cosmo II., his successor, to *Marie de Medici*, Regente of France. A vessel was despatched to Italy to fetch it; and after a safe journey to the coasts of *Normandie*, it *ecroua au porte*, and the horse remained a whole year at the bottom of the sea, from which it was finally raised at a great expense. At the beginning of May, 1614, it was transported to Paris. On the 2d of June, *Louis XIII.* laid the first stone of the pedestal, in the middle of the *Pont Neuf*. It remained for some time without a statue, but at length the figure of Henry IV., in a complete suit of French armour, surmounted the colossal horse. During the various opinions and feelings, which by turns agitated the Parisians, the head of the statue of Henry was at one period ornamented with flowers, at another with a tri-coloured cockade, and finally, in 1792, alas! the statue was melted down, and transformed into cannon. The present statue was erected with great pomp in 1818. The transportation of this enormous mass was accompanied by many disastrous circumstances. The horses and oxen not being able to drag the unwieldy figure along, a tumultuous crowd of human beings united their strength, and dragged it along, but many persons were grievously wounded, and some killed, in the tumult. This bridge unites the principal island of the Seine with the two opposite banks of the river.

BASIN DE LA VILLETTE is a vast reservoir, 800 metres long, and 80 broad. On the north it receives the waters of the canal *d'Oureq*. Its surface is covered with large boats and small light barks, gaily ornamented. It was commenced in 1806, and it was completed in 1809. There are two outlets for the waters on the side of the city; the one serves to supply the canal *Saint Martin*; the other, called the *Aqueduc de Ceinture*, feeds a great number of fountains in the north of Paris.

CANAL SAINT MARTIN extends from the *Basin de la Villette* to the *Gare de l' Arsenal*.

QUAYS.—The Seine, as it crosses the capital, is bounded by one uninterrupted line of quays, with the exception of a short distance by the *jardin du roi*, and the *halle au vin* (the wine market). These quays are subdivided, and go by thirty-four different names. It frequently happens that the Seine, in a rainy season, overflows its banks, and from the bridge of *Jcha* to the arsenal, where the water rises fifteen feet above zero on the

Pont de la Tournelle, the cellars and warehouses, and the lower stories, are filled with water, so that the inhabitants are obliged to occupy the upper part of their houses; and when the waters subside, they find all their furniture spoiled. Nay, it has happened, that, from the beginning of spring until the middle of summer, the wine cellars have been in this state.

GATES.—Paris possesses sixteen gates, which have derived their names from the goods which pay duty to the government on entering the city; hence *porte au blé*, &c.

ENTREPOTS.—The Entrepot, for wines and brandy was established, by an imperial decree, in 1808, on the quay *St. Bernard*. This establishment is divided into five great masses; the two central ones are appropriated to wines; the three others are divided into cellars. Besides these buildings, there are two for accommodation of the clerks and government officers.

In 1833, the first stone was laid of a building, which is to be denominated, *Entrepôt aux denrées Coloniales*.

HALLÉ AU BLÉ (Corn-Market).—This is a circular edifice, entirely isolated, and surrounded by houses and streets. The rotunda is pierced by twenty-five arcades, six feet and a half wide. There was no wood used in this building, but in 1782 it was covered in with a hemispheric cupola of wood, which was burnt in 1802. It is now roofed in with cast-iron and copper.

GRENIERS DE RÉSERVE (Store Granaries).—This is an immense edifice, 1,077 feet long, situated upon the ancient site of the Arsenal, on the Boulevard Bourbon. Five square pavilions, connected by four buildings, compose these store granaries, which are capable of containing 25,000 sacks of flour, belonging to the bakers of Paris, besides which they are obliged to keep at home, or at the dépôt Ste. Elizabeth, 78,000 more.

MARKETS.—There are thirty-six markets in Paris, the principal of which is that of *Saint Germain*. Its form is that of a regular parallelogram, ninety-two toises in length, and seventy-five in breadth. The front of the two principal sides is ornamented with twenty-two arcades; the two smaller sides with seventeen. There are five entrances on each side, which are closed within iron railings. The interior presents five aisles, which surround a spacious court, in the centre of which is a fountain, ornamented with bas-reliefs, representing the sciences, arts, and agriculture. A meat market, erected upon spacious

vaults, destined for the preservation of animal and vegetable substances, and constructed upon the same model as the rest of the market, only with closed stone arcades, is an adjunct to the market of *Saint Germain*, from which it is separated by the street *Lafayette*.

PASSAGES or ARCADES.—Thirty years ago, Paris contained only dirty, dark, narrow passages, deprived of light and air. The *Passage des Panoramas* then appeared like a meteor, with its glass roof and elegant shops; but even this renowned arcade was narrow and inconvenient, and, compared with the beautiful galleries of *Vivienne*, *Colbert*, *Vero Dodat*, the *Opera*, *Choiseul*, &c., it was but a paltry affair. Others, less brilliant, but equally useful, have been constructed in the *quartiers Saint Denis*, *Saint Martin*; in the *faubourgs du Temple*, and *Saint Germain*; so that, in rainy weather, one part of Paris may be traversed under cover.

ABATTOIRS (Slaughter-house).—The institution of these *Abattoirs* has been highly conducive to the health and comfort of the Parisians. Formerly, each butcher's shop had its private slaughter-house, and as there was frequently no covered drain at hand, by which all the consequent nuisance could be carried away, the streets sometimes presented a most disgusting appearance. This evil was done away with, by a decree of Napoleon, who ordered that five *abattoirs* should be established near the *barrières*, where all the animals are now killed.

EGOUTS (Common Sewers).—The principal EGOUTS of the interior of Paris are now vaulted over with a stone masonry, although, in some of the obscure parts, where, in fact, it is most important, from the density of their population, the middle of the street receives all waste water and drainage from the houses.

BAINS PUBLICS.—The frequent use of the bath in France is derived from the Romans. So late as the fifteenth century, it was customary to offer a bath to a guest before dinner; and on these occasions the mistress of the house would share her's with any lady she meant to honour. From 1760 to 1765 many private baths were erected upon the river. At present every *quartier* of Paris has its baths. The principal of these are the Chinese and Turkish baths; the baths of Tivoli, and of the *pompe à feu de Chaillot*; and, last of all, and by far the most magnificent, *Les Neothermes*, which contains the most luxuriant accommodation for every kind of oriental bath.

Near the *Pont au Change* there is an establishment of hot and cold baths, especially consecrated to the religious ablutions of the Jews.

There are also many schools for swimming; among them is one for ladies, near the Pont Royal.

* THEATRES.—The principal theatres of Paris, are the *Théâtre Français*; the saloon is a part of the *Palais Royal*, it is capable of containing 1,522 persons; the *Académie Royale de Musique*; the *Théâtre de l'Opéra Comique*; the *Odeon*; the *Théâtre du Vaudeville*, &c. &c. The disposition of the Parisians is perhaps no where more displayed with less restraint than at the first representation of a dramatic piece. The pit is then occupied by two parties, drawn up in declared hostility; they scream, clap, hiss, and sometimes fight, not for the honour of the piece, or agreeably to its merits, but either according to personal attachment or dislike, or in some instances according to the pay they receive for their applause or expressions of displeasure. No one, that wishes to hear a new play, will go on the night of its first representation.

The proportion of the profits of the theatres, as relates to managers and authors, is thus settled. At the *Théâtre Français*, the author receives one-twelfth of the profits, if his piece be in five acts, and one-eighteenth if the piece be in three; and the other theatres are all under equal; but proportional regulations: it is, however, sometimes arranged between the authors and managers differently, and a popular author will receive a much handsomer reward for his labours than this stated sum; but he must receive this proportion, and he can prevent the piece being played at any other theatre without his permission; and, of course, he reaps advantage from this. With the subject of theatres in France, the progress of music is connected. The organ was the first musical instrument which developed the powers of harmony, by which is understood the accordance of different sounds at the same time. The first organ which appeared in France was that sent to Pepin, the father of Charlemagne, in 757, by Constantine VI., Emperor of the West. In the sixteenth century, Franco, a Flemish musician, conceived the design of dividing music into times, of which he invented the symbols; this produced a great reform in music and singing, which, until the end of the seventeenth century, was confined to that of the church, except lays, carols, roundelays, &c., which

were sung by one or two people, and may be called traditional; and, at this period, the lute, viol, violin, and harpsichord, were invented. In 1581, a kind of musical drama was performed in honour of the nuptials of the *Duke de Joyeuse* with *Mademoiselle de Valentignot*; but, though it drew forth much admiration, no dramatic performance of the same description was repeated during the next hundred years, although the Italian Opera had been established for some time in Paris. In 1671, a new French opera, entitled *Pomone*, was played; and the following year *Lulli* composed several, which were received with great applause. *Lulandé*, in the meanwhile, was proportioning church music. Under the reign of Louis XIV., music made great progress in France, but was far short of that made at the same period in Italy, under the genius of *Cariassini*, *Stradella*, *Scarlati*, and *Corelli*, and a host of musicians of distinguished talent.

After the death of *Lulli*, music again sunk into insignificance in the French capital; melody disappeared under the ornaments of bad taste; in fact, it was detestable. In 1733, *Hyppolite et Aricie* appeared, the work of *Rameau*, and he redeemed the musical character of his country.

Hyppolite was followed by *Dardanus*, *Zoroastre*, and *Castor et Pollux*. At this period, disputes in the world of harmony ran high: the Italian musicians were sent home: they were recalled, and these disputes tended greatly to accelerate the progress of musical science: the merit of *Pergolèse* was at length acknowledged, and the *Opera Comique* was established; translations from the Italian were first played, and the *Servante Maitresse* was received with unbounded and permanent applause. *Pergolèse* was followed by *Duni*, *Phyllidor*, *Monseigny*, and *Gretry*, whose success is well known. While the *Opera Comique* thus advanced in fame, *Le Grand Opera* remained stationary, until *Marie Antoinette* summoned Gluck from Vienna. In 1774, his *Iphigénie en Aulide* was acted, and his reputation established, although he had subsequently a formidable rival in *Piccini*. The arrival of *Viotti* in France, in 1779, contributed greatly to the perfection of violin playing; and since this period, France has been gradually establishing her musical reputation; and the works of *Albani*, *Halvi*, *Adam*, *Fris*, and *Harold*, at the *Opéra Comique*, are deservedly celebrated.

Rosini, Meyerbeer, and Auber, keep possession of the *Grand Opera*. *Le Siege de Corinthe*, *Moise*, and *Guillaume Tell*, are among the master-pieces of the former. *Robert-le-Diable* is the only opera that Meyerbeer has composed for the *Grand Opera*, and the *Muet de Portici* is the master-piece of Auber.

BARRIÈRES.—The barrières are most of them elegantly constructed; they are thus called:—the *Barrière-St. Martin*, which is of the Tuscan order.

The *Barrière Mont Parnasse*, deriving its name from the circumstance, that the scholars of the different colleges used to assemble there for their amusement.

The *Barrière Montfétard*, called likewise, at different times, *de Mont Cetard*, *de l'Italie*, and *de Fontainbleau*.

The *Barrière de Neuilly*, sometimes *Barrière de l'Etoile*, from its being the centre of four great routes.

The *Barrière de Reuilly* occupies the site of a chateau called *Romiliocum*, which belonged to the kings of the first race.

The *Barrière de Vincennes*, or *du Trône*, a name it derives from a magnificent throne which was erected on this spot for Louis XIV. and his queen Marie Thérèse of Austria. Two superb columns of the doric order, seventy-five feet high, decorate this barrière.

WALKS.—The Parisians have many beautiful walks within the walls of the capital. Besides the gardens of the several palaces already mentioned, the *Champ de Mars*, the *Champs Elysés*, of which Longchamps forms a part; and among the boulevards, that of *la Temple*, present gay and beautiful promenades to the congregating people of the French capital.

THE ORIGIN OF BOULEVARDS.—There are three lines of boulevards in Paris: the *boulevard* which encircles the city; the *Boulevard du Nord*, which extends from the SEINE, near the granaries of reserve, unto the entrance of the *Rue Royale*; the *Boulevard Neuf*, which commences at the *Jardin du Roi*, formerly *Jardin des Plantes*, and terminates at the *Hotel des Invalides*. These boulevards are composed of a principal road and two side alleys, on each side of which there are fine rows of trees; beyond these are fine houses. The *boulevard*:—The word *boulevards* arises from *boulevert*, because formerly the Parisians used to assemble here together in order to play at *bowls*. Neuf is bordered with hotels, theatres, shops, and gardens. Nothing

can be more animated than the scene which this boulevard presents, where every rank of society has its favourite resort. That part which is called *Boulevard du Temple*, is principally visited by the middling and humbler ranks, while the *Boulevard Italien* is the favourite promenade of those in the higher grades of society.

The plantations, which are now making upon the right banks of the *Seine*, extend from the *Pont d'Austerlitz* to the *Place de la Concorde*; they will meet at these points the extremity of the *Boulevards*, and form in the middle of Paris a green shady circular walk. Between the trees, at certain distances, seats will be placed for the accommodation of the walkers; and fountains, and lamps illumined by gas, will ornament this walk, which will, indeed, be unique. The left bank of the *Seine*, being less exposed to the sun, and refreshed by the north winds, will not be planted with trees.

PRISONS.—DEPOT DE LA PRÉFECTURE DE POLICE.—This receptacle of every person arrested by the police is established at the *Préfecture* itself. Those persons who can pay for the accommodation may have apartments to themselves. Prisoners of both sexes are sent to this prison on being committed for trial; when the sessions commence, they are sent to the *Conciergerie*: the chapel contains a fine picture of the descent from the cross.

GRANDE FORCE, in the *Rue Roi de Sicile*.—This prison belonged formerly to the Kings of Sicily, afterwards to the Duke of *la Force*. In 1780 it was converted into a prison. It is divided into eight courts, which have no communication with each other.

PLITE FORCE.—This prison adjoins *la Grande Force*; it is devoted to the confinement of females of ill fame: they are employed in spinning cotton and wool, &c.

CONCIERGERIE.—The prisoners remain here during their trial; after which, those condemned to death are sent to the *Bicêtre*, and those who are acquitted dismissed. The unfortunate *Marie Antoinette*, and *Madame Elizabeth*, and many other victims of the French revolution, were confined in this prison. The dungeon in which *Marie Antoinette* was confined has been converted into *une Chapelle Expiatoire*.

SAINTE PÉLAGIE is behind the *Jardin du Roi*, in the *Rue de la Gers*. In this prison are confined all persons accused of libels,

and other political crimes, for which the punishment of one year's confinement is decreed. The government provides the poorer sort with bedding.

L'ABBAYE, in the *Rue Sainte Marguerite*, was formerly a monastery of monks, and was then called *l'Abbaye de St. Germain des Prés*. It is appropriated to the reception of military men only.

MONTAIGU.—Military prison in the *Rue des Sept Voies*. Deserters, and those condemned for serious crimes, as well as those who are accused of serious crimes, are confined in this prison. A Lancastrian school is established within the walls.

BICÊTRE.—This prison was originally built as a palace for the Bishop of Winchester, when the English were masters of Paris. It is partly an hospice, or poor-house for men. Another portion of the building is assigned to those condemned to death, or to the galleys, to which they are despatched as soon as may be after their condemnation. A third portion is appropriated to lunatics; and, among these, two men of sound intellect have been compelled for a certain period to pass a wretched life. The Abbé Fournier was sent to the Bicêtre as a madman, for preaching against the government in the time of Napoleon; and M. Pisa was sent there by the Bourbon government, in 1828, for writing an elegy upon the deceased Emperor Napoleon. They are, however, both now at liberty. The former is Bishop of Montpelier, and the other has returned to Naples, his native country.

A new prison for debtors has been erected in the *Rue Clichy*: it is called, *Prison pour Dettes*.

MADÉLONETTES.—*Rue de Fontaines du Temple* was formerly a convent for the *filles-de-la-Madeleine*: it is appropriated as a place of confinement for female debtors, or light crimes: there is one part of the building set apart for refractory children, girls whose parents adopt the plan of a confinement in the Madelonettes as a punishment for past errors, and warnings against future acts of disobedience.

SAINT LAZARE, *Faubourg St. Denis*.—This prison was, until the sixteenth century, an hospital for lepers. This plague having disappeared, it was presented to Saint-Vincent-de-Paul. It is at this time appropriated to women, condemned either to perpetual imprisonment, or to imprisonment for a certain number of years;

they are employed in all kinds of work suitable to their sex; and they are particularly skilful with the needle, and in works of fancy. They are compelled to put by a certain portion of the profits of their labour, which are restored to them when they quit the prison.

MAISON DE REFUGE, *Rue des Grès*.—This prison is devoted wholly to unfortunate children, condemned to punishment for those crimes for which their youth alone prevents their being condemned to death. It is fitted up with workshops, and every possible means are taken to restore them to society as worthy members of the community.

MAISONS DE SANTÉ (Houses of Health).—These consist of boarding-houses, hospitals, and state prisons, to which state-prisoners are sometimes sent; and debtor may occasionally be removed to these houses as a great favour. The masters of these establishments are responsible for the prisoners. The monthly charges for each person, from 200 to 300 francs, including board, lodging, and attendance.

SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DES PRISONS (Royal Society for the amelioration of Prisons).—This society was established in the time of Louis XVIII., at the suggestion of the Duke Decazes. The Duke d'Angoulême was appointed its president, assisted by men of the first rank and talent of the country, but they have unfortunately effected but little good. Indeed, with the exception of the prison of Saint Lazare, for females, and that of the Conciergerie, the other places of confinement, even in the metropolis, are little better than old dismal buildings, wretchedly ill adapted to promote the comfort, or even provide for the health of the prisoners. They are in all respects places of punishment.

THE BASTILLE.—This was the most celebrated prison in France; and, from its historical associations, it never can be forgotten. The first stone was laid by Charles V.; it consisted, at that time, of two towers only, which flanked the gate of *Saint-Antoine*; some years afterward two new towers were added, and, in process of time, it assumed the form of a parallelogram, consisting of four towers on each side, united together by embattled walls of great strength. The interior of the building was divided into two courts, the one 102 feet long by seventy-two wide, the other was seventy-two feet by forty-two. It was in the towers the prisoners were confined. The walls were twelve feet

thick at the bottom, and six feet at the top. Double doors of oak, three inches thick, defended the entrances to them. A winding stair led to the different apartments of the towers, and to the dungeons below. These dungeons were enlightened by narrow grated windows, which were opposite the ditch. There were four stories in each tower, and each story was a prison. In every room there was a fire-place, and a double-barred window, which scarcely admitted the light; but the dungeons, which, from their situation, more required fire-places, had them not.

The government of this formidable place was entrusted to an officer called *Lieutenant-du-Roi*, who had under his command a company of foot soldiers. There was also, one major, two adjutants, a physician, a surgeon, an almoner, and four jailors. For the support of these prisoners, the king granted a daily allowance according to the rank of the prisoner.

For a Prince of the blood 50 livres.

A Marshal of France 36 —

A Lieutenant-General 24 —

A person of quality, or member of Parliament .. 15 —

A judge or a priest 10 —

A citizen 15 —

This was an ample allowance, provided the prisoners received it.

The *Exempt de Police*, who was commissioned to execute a *lettre-de-cachet*, generally made his visit at break of day, commanding the door to be opened *au nom du Roi*, and to prevent any resistance he was generally well accompanied. He then entered the apartment only of the individual to be arrested, if the *lettre-de-cachet* was merely intended to separate some person from the world for a season; but if for a political crime, a most exact and minute examination took place throughout the house, drawers, cabinets, &c., which were afterwards all sealed by the *Exempt*. The intended prisoner was examined and his person described; the carriage then drove up, in which he was placed, and having passed the fatal drawbridge of the *Bastille*, he underwent another examination in the *Chambre de Conseil*, and was desired to empty his pockets, the contents of which were sealed up in a box and restored to him, if he were so fortunate as to be afterwards released. After this ceremony, he was consigned to the care of a jailor; and, from this moment, he was never men-

ioned, but as the inhabitant of the apartment he occupied in such a tower.

The *Pont de la Concorde* is constructed of the stones that formerly constituted this fortress: if they could speak, what tales they could tell!

When the Bastille was condemned to be completely destroyed, Palloy, the master mason who superintended this destruction, selected eighty-three of the most perfect stones, and of them he made eighty-three models of the building. He sent one of these models to each of the departments of France, with this inscription:—“*Modèle de la Bastille prise et demolie le 14 Juillet, 1789, par les citoyens de Paris, adressé au département de ——— par le patriote Palloy.*” The model presented to the department of *La Seine* is still preserved in the *Hotel-de-Ville* of Paris.

Many plans and designs for a monument, to be erected upon the site of the Bastille, have been rejected; but at length, in 1831, on the 27th of July, the king deposited the first stone of a pedestal, to be surmounted by a column, on the summit of which is to be placed a winged statue of liberty, holding a flambeau to enlighten the world! The column is to be twelve feet in diameter, 140 feet high: the interior is to be of wood, covered with a thin coating of bronze. Upon the north side of the column, in embossed gilt letters, will be placed the names of the victims of the 14th of July, 1789; and, on the south side, those of the victims of the three days of July, 1830. The foundation is of stone, and the pedestal and basins of the fountain are of marble.

The great street, called *Louis Philippe*, projected by Napoleon, is to extend in a straight line from the *Louvre* to this column, and from thence to the *barrière du Trône*. Should these magnificent designs be carried into effect, they will, indeed, form a strange contrast to the gloomy buildings and close neighbourhood which formerly occupied this spot.

As this department is so small, it will be as well to mention here the manufactures of the department along with those of the capital.

The manufacture of the *Gobelins* tapestry, though not the most useful, is perhaps one of the most renowned of Europe. Gilles Gobelin, in the reign of Francis I., having discovered a method of dying a beautiful scarlet, resided in a house in the

suburb *St. Marcel*, which still retains his name, as well as the little stream he made use of.

In 1666, an academy for drawing, and a manufacture of tapestry, were erected in the same quarter,—hence the name of Gobelin tapestry. There is now a manufacture of carpets, likewise, in the establishment. There is, in the *Louvre*, a piece of this, a carpet of 1,300 feet long, consisting of sixty-two pieces.

Manufacture of Severs porcelaine, although just without the department of the Seine, yet it is so intimately connected with the capital, that it may be here mentioned. The building in which it is carried on, was erected, in 1750, by the farmers-general, and subsequently purchased by Louis XV.; since which period, it has been attached to the domains of the crown. The establishment contains three collections of specimens of the manufacture of porcelaine. The first contains foreign porcelaine: the second, specimens of French porcelaine and earthenware; the third is a collection of models, of vases, complete services, statues, &c., which have ever been manufactured since its foundation. The manufacture consists of two kinds: that of *porcelaine dure*,—this is exposed to the action of fire; the other, *porcelaine tendre*, is appropriated to pieces for ornament and decoration.

Royal manufactory of Tobacco is situated on the *Quay d'Orsay*. This is a monopoly highly injurious to the industrious part of the community. The government is at the same time merchant, manufacturer, and retailer of tobacco; from these numerous avocations, it derives a revenue of 65,989,000 francs annually.

Woollen manufactories of Paris.—There are twenty-eight establishments for this purpose in the capital, in which every kind of woollen article is manufactured, from the coarsest blanket to the finest cloth.

The importation of the *Cashmere* goat has produced important results and benefits to the commercial part of the community.

The silk manufactory of Paris consists of one for shawls only.

There are, in Paris, *cotton manufactories* for counterpanes, stockings, fuslins, calicoes, jacquets, cambric, muslin, &c.; lace, blonds, and embroidered gauzes, are also manufactured in the capital.

Artificial flowers, hats, carpets, jewelry, musical instruments,

paper, &c. &c. &c., all form a part of the commercial industry of the capital.

SCEAUX.—Formerly there was a fine castle at *Sceaux*, which was replaced by a beautiful chateau, erected by Colbert, in 1670. It was destroyed at the close of the last century, with its park and avenues. Its statues now adorn various parts of the capital. At the time of the sale of this property, the mayor of the town, *M. Desgranges*, purchased the menagerie and the kitchen-garden, which were separated from the chateau by the town. A rural ball takes place there every Sunday, to which numbers of the Parisians, as well as the inhabitants from the neighbouring villages, repair. The church, rebuilt by Colbert, is a beautiful building, remarkable for its simplicity. There is a great cattle market held in a square building on the foot of the hill upon which *Sceaux* stands.

VAUGIRARD is a large town, contiguous to the walls of Paris. It is celebrated for its number of *guinguettes*, (tea-gardens,) where the working-classes, on Sundays and Mondays, meet to dance and enjoy themselves.

ISSY, a small village upon the side of the hill, is of Roman origin, deriving its name, as some authors say, from a temple to *Isis*. It was the favourite residence of the early kings of France, and there are still the remains of a gothic building, which the people call *Maison de Childbert*.

MONTROUGE is situated in a fine plain, on the road to *Orléans*. It is celebrated as having been the seat of one of the novitiate houses of the Jesuits, to which they built a chapel. In 1814, after an absence of sixty-two years, they again took possession of their former habitation, where they remained until the revolution of 1830 again dislodged them.

ALFORT is celebrated for its *École royale d'Economie et Vétérinaire*.

CHARANTON contains a lunatic asylum, capable of accommodating 400 patients. The situation is beautiful, well arranged, and calculated to soften one of the heaviest afflictions which can befall suffering humanity.

VINCENNES.—This town is mentioned in the ancient chronicles under the name of *Vilcenn*. St. Louis was very fond of this spot, delighting in its extensive wood, under an oak of which, he, in patriarchal simplicity, gave audience to his people. The

foundations of the present castle were laid, in 1339, by *Philippe de Valois*, and the building was finished by Charles V. Louis XI, transformed this palace into a state prison, and so it remained until the year 1784. Napoleon restored it to its second destination, and the Duke d'Enghien met his untimely fate in the ditch of this castle. A column, with this inscription, marks the spot where he fell : *hic cecidit*. In 1814, the castle was attacked by the allies, but they could not take it. Its commander, at that period, was General Dumesnil, known at Paris by the surname of *la Jambe de bois*.

SAINT DENIS, situated in a fine flat country, upon the streamlets *Croust* and *Royillon*, near the right bank of the *Seine*. This town is supposed to be built upon the ancient village named *Catalacum*. The basilica is erected on the place where St. Denis stopped, after having been decapitated at Montmatre, from whence he walked, carrying his head in his hand, being accompanied by a host of angels, some of whom sang, *Gloria tibi, Domine*, while others answered, *Alléluia!* It is thus that the fact is related by Hilduin, Abbot of St. Denis, in the ninth century. Several writers say that St. Genevieve had the honour of erecting the first chapel to St. Denis, where she, in fact, performed many miracles! This chapel was replaced by a church, which was in time surrounded by houses, and *Charles-le-chauve* had it enclosed by walls in 869.

Dagobert is considered as the founder of the first basilica of *Saint Denis*. This prince established a congregation of monks in its precincts, upon whom he conferred great privileges and immunities. Dagobert dying in 638, his corpse was carried to *Saint Denis*, and his successors, for many generations, were buried there. Pepin enlarged the church, and he afterwards commenced a new edifice, which was not completed until the reign of Charlemagne, in whose presence it was consecrated with great pomp. The monks of Saint Denis became in time renowned politicians. Turpin, Chancellor under Charlemagne; Hilduin, Ambassador under Louis le Debonnaire; and the wise Suger, who was appointed regent of the kingdom, whilst Louis IX. went on his unfortunate expedition to Palestine, were all monks of Saint Denis. Suger ordered the abbey of Saint Denis to be surrounded with embattled walls, some remains of which were discovered a few years ago. Saint Denis, although

built at different periods, and consequently of different kinds of architecture of the middle ages, has a noble appearance. It is in the shape of a cross. The body of the church is 390 feet long, 100 wide, and 80 feet high. Four enormous pillars support each tower. The roof and arches are sustained by sixty pillars. It formerly contained the monuments of many illustrious men, which the Convention, in 1793, ordered to be destroyed. The body of Henry IV. was found in perfect preservation. It was exposed for some time to the public view, and a few daring persons ventured to take some of his beard and moustachios, as relics of the olden time. In three days, fifty-one tombs were demolished: the bones which they inurned were thrown, *pêle-mêle*, into a ditch, dug in that spot formerly occupied by the *Rotund des Valois*, which had been erected by Catherine of Medici to receive the tomb of Henry II. Until the restoration, a tumulus, covered with turf, preserved the remains of sixty kings of France!

This profanation of the tombs, which is three times recorded in the history of France,* is an action so repugnant to the human feelings, that it appears scarcely credible, that a civilized people should conceive such an idea as that of disturbing the mortal remains of man, in wanton revenge, either for real or supposed wrongs. In all ages a respect for the relics of the dead has been cherished; and profane history abounds with instances of pathetic lament, where the last funeral obsequies have been, from any circumstance, delayed or neglected; and Euripides, in his *Hecuba*, thus speaks of him who, hurried away by the triumphant feelings of victory, shall destroy temples, or disturb the dead—

Unwise is he, whoe'er of mortals storms
O'er leaguer'd towns, and crush'd in ruins wastes
The temples of the gods, the hallow'd tombs
Where sleep the dead; for he shall perish soon.†

The church of *Saint Denis* was at the same time transformed into a *magasin de subsistance*. In 1806, *Napoleon* gave orders for the reparation of the tombs of the *Bourbons*, as the future sepulture of the members of the imperial family. The events of 1814 took place before the order was executed. The *Bourbons*

* In the time of Louis XIV., in the wars of the Palatinate and of Port Royal, and during the revolution of 1789 and following years.

† See note A at the end of the volume.

being restored to the throne, they restored the remains of their ancestors to consecrated earth. Several monuments, which had been placed in the *Musée des Monuments Français*, were replaced in the church of *St. Denis*. Among this number were the tombs of *Dagobert* and *Nantilde*, his wife; *Francais I.* and *Claude de France*; *Louis XII.* and *Anne de Bretagne*, &c. One of the most curious parts of the basilica of *St. Denis*, is its subterraneous chapel, in which the tombs of the first, second, and third races of the kings of France were deposited. The vault of the *Bourbons* is situated under the choir and the great altar of the church. Seven coffins have been deposited within it since the restoration. *Louis XVIII.* was the last prince deposited there; but the body of this monarch has not yet been placed in the royal vault. It waits at the foot of the staircase until its successor shall take its place; then only, according to ancient usage, his coffin can be admitted among those of his predecessors. The entrance to the vault of the *Bourbons* is in the church, covered over with two flat stones. Adjoining to this vault, and opening into it, is that belonging to the family of *Condé*, now finally closed, since it has received the last coffin of his race.

St. Denis contains, likewise, beautiful barracks, for cavalry and infantry, and the *Maison Royal des Filles de la Legion d'Honneur*, an establishment founded by the Emperor *Napoléon*, where 500 young ladies, daughters of the members of the Legion of Honour, are educated, 400 of whom receive gratuitous education; the other 100 pay a small stipend.

The village of *Arceuil*, renowned for its aqueduct; those of *Vanvres*, *Chatenay-le-Bagneux*, *Aunay les Chatenay*, *Gentilly*, *Romainville*, *Notre Dame des Vertus* or *Aubervilliers*, *Neuilly*, and *Boulogne*, are all small towns and villages in the neighbourhood of the capital; which have their particular attraction. The wood of the latter is much resorted to, for the beautiful walks it affords to the Parisians on their days of fête, where they congregate in large numbers, and enjoy themselves under the shade of the venerable trees, enlivened by music, dancing, and many other amusements.

The picturesque ruins of the once beautiful abbey of *Royaumont* are to be seen about two leagues from *Chantilly*. This cloister was founded by *Saint Louis*, in the year 1230. The chronicles relate that, in that year, 1230, the fourth of the reign

of the holy king Louis, he made a vow to construct an abbey, remarkable for the exquisite beauty of its architecture. It was erected in a place called Cuimont, and was called *Mons regalis*, *Mont royal*. Here Louis placed an abbot, with twenty monks, of the order of *Cîteaux*. Very considerable wealth was expended in beautifying its interior, which was ornamented with the greatest splendour. Saint Louis very frequently repaired thither, where he prayed with the sick, eat in the refectory with the monks, and slept with them in their dormitory. Five of his children were interred in the church of this abbey. Among the numerous tombs it contained, was that of *Henri de Lorraine, Comte d'Harcourt*, who died in 1666. This tomb was one of the chef-d'œuvre de Coyzevay.

After the revolution, the abbey of Royamont was sold. These vast buildings were transformed into a cotton manufactory, and a laundry. The church of Saint Louis was demolished, and its materials were used to erect a little village, which occupies the ancient enclosure of the monks. A few years ago, the heart of one of the *Dukes de Lorraine* was found in a chapel, which had been dedicated to him; and, lately, the body of a monk was discovered, in a state of perfection.

2. — DEPARTMENT OF THE OISE.

This is an island department (N.), composed of portions of the *Isle de France* and *Picardie*.

SOIL.—The face of the country is gently undulating, and the soil productive. In the north-east and south-west there are some marshy lands; the rest consists of a varied culture. The pastures are rich, and the territory produces hemp, cyder, corn, butter, and cheese. The vine is cultivated at *Beauvais*.

RIVERS.—The Oise crosses this department, nearly from north-east to north-west.

QUARRIES.—The quarries of free-stone are productive, and the sands of the soil are used in manufacturing the looking-glasses of Saint Gobin.

FORESTS.—The forest of *Compiègne* covers a space of 25,000 acres. It is well stocked with game.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Vaillant, Lenglet Dufresnoy, Mesinguy, Preville, Restaut, &c.*

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. It forms part of the diocese of Beauvais. The Protestants have some temples, or houses of prayer, in this department.

This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz.:—*Beauvais*, *Clermont*, *Compiègne*, and *Senlis*. Its judicial administration depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Amiens*; and it is comprised in the first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

BEAUVAIS is one of the most ancient towns in France. Its *Hôtel de Ville*, of modern architecture, is a handsome building. Its cathedral is celebrated for the beauty of its choir: had the rest of the building been finished in the same style, it would indeed have been one of the finest churches in France. The church of *Saint Etienne* contains a tomb, carved in relief, of great beauty, and a magnificent picture of the bearing of the cross. *Beauvais* has been twice besieged, but never taken. Once it was defended by women, under the command of *Jeanne Hachette*, who beat off 48,000 Burgundians! In consequence of this heroism, they took the precedence of the men in the processions on the anniversary of the siege; and they had the privilege of dressing themselves like princesses on the day of their marriage.

Beauvais has a fine manufactory of tapestry, which ranks next to that of *Gobelins*; painted cloths, linen, and woollen cloths.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 15' 19''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 26'$.

COMPIÈGNE is a pretty well-built town, situated on the slope of a hill watered by the Oise, and on the borders of the forest of *Compiègne*. This forest extends over 30,000 acres, and is considered one of the finest in France. The town was formerly fortified, surrounded by walls, bastions, and *demi-lunes*, but they have all fallen into decay. It was here the English captured *la Pucelle d'Orléans*.

SENLIS is an ancient town, seated on the *Norette*, at the side of a hill, almost surrounded by a great forest. Its form is nearly circular. The origin of this town remounts to the time of Julius Cæsar. Some of its old boundaries are still visible. It was subsequently surrounded by other walls, which have alike gone to decay; the ground they occupied has been converted into walks. Its castle was founded by Saint Louis. The portal of the right

entrance to the cathedral is very curious, and its steeple is said to be the highest in France. The inhabitants of this part of France were converted to Christianity by *Saint Denys*.

The town possesses bleaching grounds. It carries on a trade in timber, corn, and stones, which are extracted from its quarries. The sand in its neighbourhood is employed in the manufacture of the glass at *Saint Gobin*.

Long. East $0^{\circ} 14' 58''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 12' 28''$. Eleven leagues North from Paris.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF THE AISNE.

This is an inland department. (N.) It is composed of a number of small territories, formerly dependent upon *Picardie*, viz.:—*Thiérache*, *Vermandois*, *Laonnois*, *Tardenois*, and *Soissonnais*; of part of *Valois* (*Isle of France*); and a part of *Brie Champenoise*.

SOIL.—The surface of this department is diversified by hills in the south, and plains in the north. The soil of the former is composed of beds of clay, silex, and chalk, which are covered by a fertile vegetable earth; the valleys generally consist of a fat rich soil. The hills are, many of them, flat table-lands on their summits; that on which Laon stands rises about 600 feet above the level plain.

RIVERS.—The navigable rivers are the *Aisne*, *Oise*, and *Marne*. The *Sambre*, the *Somme*, and the *Scheldt*, rise in this department. The canal of *Saint Quentin*, and the canal de *Manichamp*, contribute to its inland navigation.

FORESTS.—One-fifth of the Aisne is covered by forests.

QUARRIES.—Freestone, marbles of different kinds, slates, &c., are plentiful.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—These consist of societies of *Belles-Lettres*, and the Arts and Sciences, Agriculture, Schools of Drawing, Geometry, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The kings, *Coribert*, *Chelperic I.*; *Clotaire II.*; *Lotaire I.*; *Frédégonde*; *Anthony* of Bourbon, King of Navarre, father of *Henry IV.*; *Cardinal Bourbon*, the first Prince of Condé, assassinated at Jamac; *Duke Cesar de Vendôme*; *Robert de Bar*; *Lahire*; *Marshals d'Armentières*; *Rezors*; *de Chaiseul*; *d'Estrées*; *Puységur*, &c.: *Caulincourt*; his brother, the Duke of *Vicenza*; *Dubois*; *Alexandre Dumas*, &c. &c.:

Colonel Chantéclaire; *Babeyf*; *Camille Desmoulins*; *Saint Just*; *Hennuyer*, Bishop of *Lisieux*, who opposed the massacre of the Protestants; *La Fontaine*; *Duke de Saint Simon*; *Gaillard*; *Alexandre Dumas*, the poet; and a host of others, too numerous to mention.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. The Protestant consistorial church at *Moureaux* comprehends the departments of *Aisne* and *Seine et Marne*. It is divided into four sections, attended by twelve pastors. There are also fifteen chapels, one Bible Society, Missionary Society, and one for religious tracts; and twelve Protestant schools.

This department is divided into five arrondissements:—*Laon*, *Soissons*, *Chateau Thierry*, *Saint Quentin*, and *Vervins*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Amiens*, and it is comprised in the first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LAON.—*Eaundunam*, built upon the ruins of the ancient *Bibrax*, is situated upon a steep rock, commanding a fine view, sixteen leagues in circumference. *Laon* is an ill-built town, and its cathedral is the only object of interest it contains. The walks in the environs, however, compensate for its internal barrenness. They consist of terraces, planted with trees, from whence a most extensive prospect extends.

Its territory produces corn and wine, and abundance of crystallized pebbles and fine sand, which is used much at *Saint Gobin*, in the construction of glass. It is curious, that although this town stands so high, the wells produce abundance of water, and are not very deep. The artichokes, called *artichaux de Laon*, are cultivated near *Chiry*, a village not very distant from the town.

Long. $1^{\circ} 17' 12''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 33' 52''$. Thirty-three leagues North of Paris; sixteen posts and a half.

About three leagues from *Laon* is the celebrated church of *Notre Dame de Liesse*, to which kings formerly went as pilgrims. *Soissons* is situated in a pleasant valley, watered by the *Aisne*. Its streets are narrow, and its houses ill-built. There are few remains of its antiquity, which is, nevertheless, unquestionable. Its cathedral is a fine building, comparatively of modern structure; and the ruins of its castle, flanked by four round towers,

bespeak it to have been a magnificent edifice, for its style of architecture. In days of yore it was inhabited by the monarchs of the three first dynasties. Soisson contains, likewise, a lyceum, and a theatre.

It carries on some manufactures in coarse cloths, stockings, &c., and its territory produces excellent *haricots* (French beans), hemp, linseed, nuts, walnuts, &c. It is a considerable entrepot for grain; and its tanneries, rope-walks, and bleaching-grounds are extensive.

Long. $1^{\circ} 59' 28''$; Lat. $49^{\circ} 22' 32''$. Twenty-five leagues North of Paris.

LA TERE is situated at the confluence of *La Seine* and *L'Oise*, and is remarkable for its arsenal and school of artillery.

CHATEAU THIERRY rises as an amphitheatre upon the right bank of the *Marne*; above it, are the ruins of a fine castle, erected on the summit of a hill. This castle was built by Charles Martel, in 720, as the residence of the young King *Thierry*, in whose name he exercised sovereign authority. It has been many times besieged. The fauxbours extend along the left banks of the *Marne*, and communicate with the city by a stone bridge. At the end of this bridge, on the side of the town, stands the statue of *La Fontaine*, in marble; the house in which he was born is still pointed out in *Chateau Thierry*. A beautiful walk runs along the banks of the river.

Notre-Dame de Liesse.—This is a small village about three leagues from *Laon*, renowned for its ancient image of the Virgin, much visited in ancient times, and still enjoying much reputation for sanctity. The foundation of the church dates so far back as 1134. The chapel, which contains the figure of the Virgin, is small, simple, and unornamented: kings, princes, and potentates, from all parts of Europe, have performed pilgrimages to this image; and, in 1624, the Duchess of Berry visited it in the character of a pilgrim. A fountain stands beside the church. The fabrication of chaplets, crosses, crucifixes, crowns of artificial flowers, &c. &c., contribute greatly to the prosperity of this little commune.

4.—DEPARTMENT OF SEINE ET OISE.

This department is inland, and is composed of the ancient province of the *Ile-de-France*; it entirely surrounds the department of the *Seine*.

SOIL.—The soil is principally composed of vegetable, clayey, and sandy earths, reposing upon a bed of clay. "On every side it presents cultivated lands, woods, forests, parks, hills, rivers, &c.; and, in some parts, marshes. It is traversed by a chain of calcareous elevations, in which are deposited fossil shells, and other remains of a marine world.

FORESTS.—These consist chiefly of the oak, and they occupy a large portion of the department.

RIVERS.—Three of its rivers are navigable, and exceedingly full of fish, viz., the *Seine*, the *Oise*, and the *Marne*. There are also a number of smaller streams, which are employed in turning mills, &c., and the canal of *Ourcq* contributes to its inland navigation.

QUARRIES.—Quarries of marble, alabaster, and freestone; clay, marble, lithographic stone, mill-stones, &c., constitute its internal treasures.

MINERAL WATERS.—There is an establishment of sulphureous waters at *Enghien*, and at *Montlignon*, there is also a cold saline spring.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Versailles* there is a Royal Society of Agriculture and the Arts; a School of Sciences, Letters, and Arts, of Drawing, &c., a Royal Museum, an Historical Museum; and at *Corbeil*, *Etampes*, *Montes*, *Pontoise*, and *Rambouillet*, there are Societies of Agriculture.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Versailles*.

This department is divided into seven *arrondissements*; viz., *Versailles*, *Mantes*, *Rambouillet*, *Pontoise*, *Etampes*, *St. German-en-Laye*, *Corbeil*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royal de Paris*; it is comprised in the first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

VERSAILLES may perhaps derive its name from its former possessors and lords, the family of *Versallis*. In 1572, *Lomenie*,

Lord of *Versailles*; that is to say, of the castle of that name, (for a castle and an abbey were the only buildings which in those times occupied the site of the present town,) fell a sacrifice to the horrid massacre of Saint *Bartholmi*. Henry IV., when he came to the throne, restored the confiscated estate to the son of his unfortunate friend *Lomepie*. In 1627, *Jeun de Soissy* sold the estate to Louis XIII., who at first erected only a hunting seat upon the slope of the hill; but afterwards he constructed on its summit a chateau, which was absorbed in the present magnificent edifice, built in the time of Louis XIV. The few cottages which had formerly been dispersed in the neighbourhood of the old chateau, had gradually increased in number, when royalty made this beautiful spot the seat of its attractions; and the village, which arose in the time of Louis XIII., became, during the reign of his successor, a town, and one of the most beautiful towns in France. Yet *Versailles*, with all its grandeur, is *triste*; the streets are wide, straight, and of immense length, and in general they rise and fall. The neighbourhood of the churches of *Notre Dame* and *Saint Louis*, during the hours of church service, is enlivened by a concourse of persons, but in general the streets present a melancholy uninteresting aspect. Upon the *Boulevards de la Reine et du Roi*, a few elderly persons, a number of little dogs, young ladies with their mammas, children with their bonnes, and now and then a few *élégantes*, may be seen; but, like all places in which grandeur is the predominate quality, *Versailles* must necessarily be considered dull by that part of the community who delight in the busy influence of commerce, or the more brilliant and sparkling influence of pleasure. Yet, to those spirits who find pleasure in repose, or in reflection, surely no place can equal *Versailles*. The town contains a *Palais de Justice*, an *Hotel de Ville*, and capital barracks; it is also beautified by many fountains, which are supplied with water brought from the Seine by an aqueduct, and the pump, which has replaced the celebratèd machine of *Marly*. The theatre is a handsome building; the *College Royal*, and the library, which contains 42,000 volumes, are deserving of notice. But the most useful public establishment is that entitled, *Le Dépôt des Chartes et Archives de la Marine et des Colonies*, established in 1776 for the colonies only; but it is now the depository of all those documents of the marine, which are not required for

daily reference, but to which access may be readily had, at a short notice, either by individuals or by the government.

The *Chateau of Versailles* consists of two fronts; one faces the town, the other the gardens. The principal front is separated from the *Place d'Armes* by a handsome iron railing, which is much ornamented. The garden front is decorated with eighty statues, each fifteen feet high, representing the seasons, the sciences, the arts, &c. The chapel is a noble and elegant building; it is principally composed of marble. Painting and sculpture have lavishly and tastefully bestowed their labours on its interior decoration.

In 1794, the sect called *Theophilanthropes* celebrated their religion within its walls. The emblem they chose for the Deity was a *sheaf of corn*, which they placed upon their altar. The vestibule of the chapel forms one of the entrances into the garden.

The *Salle d'Opera* was formerly one of the most magnificent in Europe, it was completed for the marriage of Louis XVI. when Dauphin. The chandeliers, the gilding, the paintings, which adorned it, the 10,000 wax tapers which illumined it, and the 3,000 spectators, courtiers, in their rich dresses, must, indeed, have presented, on this occasion, a *coup-d'œil* not to be equalled in these times.

The state apartments contained many exquisite paintings and rich decorations, of which the limits of this work will not permit the description. All those formerly denominated *Appartemens du Roi*, or *Grands Appartemens*, are in future to be appropriated to the reception of a *Musée Historique*, relative to the history of France.

Among the chambers of most interest at present, is that which immediately precedes what was formerly called the king's bed-chamber: it is illumined by one oval window, placed near the ground, and which was called *l'Œil de Boeuf*. The reader need not be reminded of the historical events of which it was the scene during the French revolution. The mention of another apartment must not be omitted,—the *Confessional of the king*, where the king knelt to his confessor; he was placed between two glass doors, so that, although the captain of the guard could hear nothing, he never lost sight of the king. This circumstance might give rise to many curious reflections.

The *Appartemens de la Reine* were equal in magnificence, perhaps superior, to those of the king. Luxury, and her hand-maid, art, seem, indeed, to have exhausted invention in the decorations of the apartments of the queens of France.

The grand staircase of *Versailles* is very magnificent.

The parks and gardens are divided into the great and little parks. The great park contains the villages of *Bailly*, *Bois d'Arcy*, &c.; the little park contains the superb gardens planted by *Le Nostre*, who also laid out Kensington Gardens and St. James's Park, London. If a person place himself on the terrace, called the *Parterre d'eau*, he may, when the *grandes eaux* play, see before him the *Bason of Latona*, the *Allée du tapis vert*, the *bason of Apollo*, and the *Canal*. On the right, the *Parterre du Noir*, the fountain of the *Pyramid*, the *Cascade*, the *Allée d'eau*, the fountain of the *Dragon*, and the *bason of Neptune*. On the left, the *Parterre des fleurs*, the *Orangery*, and the *Piece d'eau des Suisses*. Nothing can be conceived more like enchantment than this scene; amid which, from pieces of the most exquisite sculpture, the waters rise in lofty columns, and fall in shivering splendour. There are many *bosquets*, or groves, under different names which adorn these beautiful gardens; and the *Tapis vert*, a long green walk, on each side of which are beautiful statues, arranged at equal distances, affords a delightful promenade to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. The *orangery* is considered a master-piece in itself: 1200 orange trees adorn its interior, intermingled with lemon trees, limes, myrtles, laurels, pomegranates, &c. One of the orange trees is called *le Grand Bourbon*, because it formed a part of the property confiscated to the Duke of Bourbon in 1552; it is nearly 400 years old.

The *Grand Trianon* is erected upon the site of a small village, which, in the twelfth century, was called *Triarum*, from whence its present name is derived. *Mansard* was the architect of this edifice, which is in the Italian style, and is composed of the marble of *Languedoc*, and of the marble of *Campan*, except one wing, which has been reconstructed of common stone. The chief apartment is entirely lined with looking glasses. The gardens contain many fine statues.

The *Petit Trianon* was erected by Louis XVI. for the pleasure of the unfortunate Marie-Antoinette, who spent her happiest days in this delightful abode. The principal building is a

square pavilion, the interior of which is furnished, not only with the most costly magnificence, but with the most exquisite taste. The gardens were equally beautiful; they were laid out partly in the English, partly in the French style. The Temple of Love, and that of the Belvedere, are very beautiful; a small rustic cottage stands on the banks of a canal, and the Tower of Marlborough is not far distant: this building commands an extensive prospect. Here the unfortunate queen had collected plants from all countries; and here she bade adieu to state, and yielded to the more genial familiarities of social life. "Poor queen!" and here she shed many a tear!

Long. West $0^{\circ} 12' 55''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 48' 21''$.

SAINT GERMAIN EN LAYE is situated on a lofty hill, at some distance from the left bank of the Seine: it is a pretty town; the streets are fine and regular. The old castle, which still exists, was built by Francis I., was a superb building, and was richly ornamented: it is now made use of as barracks. Henry IV. erected one still more splendid, but of this edifice a few ruins on the side of the mountain alone remains. It contained many splendid staircases, statues, and fountains. Louis XIII. and XIV. were born in the old castle, and it was also in this castle that the former expired. In 1643, Louis XIII., being attacked by a fever, gave orders that his son should be baptized: after the ceremony was performed, he asked his son, who was then five years old, what his name was. "I am Louis XIV." replied the child. "Not yet," said the king, in a melancholy tone. "Not yet, my son; but soon, perhaps, you will be so, if it be the will of God." Louis XIV. spent his early days at *Saint-Germain*, which he greatly ornamented, but he eventually forsook it; for, as his years increased, it is said, he could not bear to see the steeples of *Notre Dame*, which recalled to him the words of his father, which had been repeated to him, who, standing by one of the windows, exclaimed, "My friends, there stands my last earthly dwelling place." It became, subsequently, the residence of Madame de la Valliere. James II. of England found a home within its walls; he was the last person of note who inhabited *Saint-Germain*. Although this town contains 10,000 inhabitants, yet it is but one parish; and, consequently, there is but one parish church for the accommodation of so large a congregation of human souls. The theatre is

handsome and large, and some of the hotels are fine buildings, particularly that of *Noailles*, which, during the revolution, fell into the hands of a celebrated hat manufacturer of Paris, who was at that period known in the department of *Seine et Oise* as the *Marquis Chorabas*, in consequence of his enormous landed possessions. •

The view from the terrace of the castle is most extensive and beautiful. The forest of *Saint Germain* is one of the finest in France: it contains 8,500 acres of land, and it is surrounded by a wall; numerous roads traverse it in every direction; and, where they branch off, there are sign-posts indicating the place to which they lead: but there are other *signs*, not so agreeable, to be met with,—large stone crosses, indicative of events, which, in these solitudes, may make the timid traveller long to take the shortest road of egress: here stands the *Croix Poissy*, there, the *Croix Pucelle*, the *Croix Berri*, &c. &c., all most portentously allied to the horrible. In the centre of the forest stands the *Maison des Loges*, at the junction of eight roads—it is the grand rendezvous for hunting; besides which, it is renowned for a fair held before it on the first Sunday in September. The *Loges* was formerly a priory; and, on the fête of *Saint Faise*, the priest used to celebrate a solemn service, much resorted to, which time has transmogrified into a noisy and tumultuous fair! The chateau of *la Muette* is situated on the extremity of the forest. •

Saint Germain is celebrated for its manufactory of candles, and its tanneries. •

Long. $0^{\circ} 16'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 53'$.

ETAMPES, situated in a fertile valley, upon the *Seine*, between *Paris* and *Orleans*, is a very ancient town: it is mentioned in the chronicles of the first race of kings in France, under the name of *Stampæ*. It has been the scene of many a strongly contested battle; and, during the revolution, in 1792, *Henri Simoneau*, mayor of *Etampes*, fell, pierced with bayonets, exclaiming, "You may kill me, but I shall not fail in my duty; the law forbids me." The town consists of one street only, but this is a league and a half long; the houses are well built, and there are many agreeable walks in its neighbourhood, on the banks of running streams. The church of *Notre Dame*, the *Hôtel de Ville*, and the *Maison d'Anne de Pisseleu*, are fine buildings.

The former was a synagogue, which Philip II. converted into a college of canons.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 16'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 25'$.

MANTES, surnamed *le Ioli*, is charmingly situated on the left bank of the *Seine*, which here forms several very pleasing islands, one of which is attached to the opposite shore by a magnificent bridge of one arch. The arms of Mantes was formerly an oak: this circumstance has given rise to the supposition, that it is of Druidic origin. It was formerly defended by a fort, which Henry IV., at the request of the Parisians, destroyed, and on the spot he erected three fountains. The cathedral of Mantes is a fine gothic building, surmounted by two very lofty towers: the most remarkable object in its interior, are six pillars of the most exquisite and delicate workmanship, which surround the choir. The tower of *Saint Maclou*, all that remains of a beautiful church of that name, is a splendid specimen of ancient architecture.

Mantes carries on a brisk trade in leather.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 42'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 48'$.

PONTOISE is agreeably situated at the confluence of the *Viosne* and *Oise*: the Romans called it *Briva-Isaræ*, from the word *brive*, which signifies bridge; hence its present name, *Pont-Ois* (*Bridge Oise*). It was formerly a place of importance; some remains of its walls are still to be seen: its situation, on a steep rock, exposed it, during a siege, to the want of water, until *Saint Louis* brought the *Viosne* to it by means of a dyke, which, in modern times, turns twenty-two mills. It has been the seat of many wars, and of many political events of notoriety. In 1561, the *States General* were assembled within its walls, and in 1720 the Parliament was banished thither.

The most remarkable edifice in Pontoise, is the church of *Saint Maclou*: its tower contains a bell, upon which is the following Latin line:—

Unda, unda, unda, unda, unda, unda; accurit cives.

A public library, and a magnificent hospital, and all is told that deserves notice in this town.

Pontoise carries on a considerable trade with the capital in corn, flour, cattle, eggs, and calves; besides which, it has manufactories of mercery, leather, and cloths; a cannon-foundry, gun manufactory; and in the neighbourhood there are

found quantities of stone, which the inhabitants convert into mill-stones.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 14' 23''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 3' 2''$.

MALMAISON is a chateau situated upon the road to *Saint Germain*; its ancient name of *Mala Domus* ill accorded with the scenes of gaiety which it exhibited when it was purchased by *Josephine Tascher de la Pagerie*, widow of Beauharnois, who became, as wife of *Napoleon Buonaparte*, Empress of France! After her divorce, she retired to this, always her favourite residence, which she had greatly adorned. Her memory is still cherished in its vicinity, for she was a generous benefactor and a kind friend. In 1814, the Emperor Alexander paid her many visits at this place. *Napoleon* repaired thither for a few days after his abdication, from whence he directed his steps to *Roche-fort*. *Malmaison* is no longer the seat of splendour, of grandeur, or of munificence. Its school of agriculture, and its hot-house, have been destroyed; the park has been converted into arable land, and every part of this domain has been sold in lots, as if to consign to oblivion the remembrance of *Malmaison*, and the facts concerning it; but they are recorded in the historic page, and cannot be effaced by the furrows of the plough, though, in after times, the inquisitive traveller may be puzzled to find out the exact spot where so many interesting events occurred; but the research will add considerably to his gratification, if, perchance, he should be able to say, "Here then stood *Malmaison*."

MEUDON.—This village appears in the ancient charts of the twelfth century as *Meodum*; it is situated at the foot of the castle of the same name. The *Chateau Neuf* was built by the second son of Louis XIV.: it was ornamented and repaired by *Napoleon*, who was very fond of its situation. *Louise Marie*, his wife, spent much of her time there during the Russian campaign: the little park attached to its domain contains 500 acres of enclosed land; but the great park is of an immense extent. The woods of *Meudon* are much frequented by the Parisians, to whom they afford delightful walks.

SAINT CYR is on the great road to *Chartres*; it was a place of no importance until the time of Louis XIV., when *Madame de Maintenon* founded a community for the gratuitous education of 250 noble young ladies. Although the building is so extensive, that it is divided into twelve principal bodies, which form

five courts, yet, under the inspection of the celebrated architect *Mansard*, it was completed in one year. After the death of Louis XIV., *Madame de Maintenon* passed the rest of her days at *St. Cyr*: here she received the visit of Peter the Great, and here she closed her long and romantic existence. She is buried in the choir of the church. Three hundred young men now replace the young ladies. *St. Cyr* is converted into a military school.

MONTHÉRY is celebrated for its antique tower, which commands it.

Ses murs dont le sommet se dérobe à la vue,
Sur la cime d'un mont s'allongent dans la nue,
Et présentant de loin leur objet ennuyeux,
Du passant qui les fuit semblent suivre les yeux.

Indeed, for miles round, it seems to pursue the traveller. *Monthéry* stands renowned in feudal annals, for its lords were the terror of the neighbourhood; the kings of France themselves sought, by alliances with them, to find security from their depredations. Philippe I., when he was dying, addressed his son Louis thus:—" *Mon fils garde bien ce chateau qui m'a coûté tant de peines et de Tourments; par la perfidie et la malice de son seigneur, J'ai passé ma vie entière à me défendre contre lui, et je'mis arrivé à un état de vieillesse sans en avoir per obtenir ni paix ni repos.*" The jurisdiction of this *castellry* extended over 300 parishes, and over 133 fiefs. Many fief lords were compelled to guard the castle during two months every year; they were called, *Chevaliers de Monthéry*. Five gates, placed the one higher than the other, and separated by terraces or courts, guarded its entrance. The tower of the *donjon* is all that remains; it is ninety-six feet high, and appears to have extended still higher: its strength may be imagined, for the walls were nine feet in breadth at the bottom of the *donjon* tower; the staircase to this tower wound within another tower, so that it could be rendered inaccessible. The environs of this tower present a heap of ruins.

The town, formerly *Mons-Lethéricus*, consists of large airy streets, with fine houses, gardens, and terraces. The gate *Baudry* bears this inscription:—" *Cette porte bâtie dès l'an 1015, par Thibaud Fils-Etoupe, fut rebâtie en 1589, sous Henri III. et restaurée sous le Consulat de Bonaparte, l'an VIII. de la République, par Goudron du Tilloy, Maire.*"

RAMBOUILLET is situated in an agreeable valley, on the borders of a forest. The town is well built; the streets wide, clean, and tolerably straight. It is remarkable for its castle, in which Francis I. died. It is flanked by three small towers and one large one, upon which the embattlements still remain. The park belonging to it is spacious, and its forest very extensive. It was here that Marie Louise and the King of Rome received the visit of the allied sovereigns, and from this place the son of Buonaparte set out for Vienna. It was here Charles X. signed his abdication, and from this castle the elder branch of the house of Bourbon commenced their third emigration from the land of their fathers.

MONTMORENCY commands an extensive view of the beautiful valleys of the same name. Burchard le Barbu, in 1008, erected a fortress near the fountain of *Sainte-Walarie*, upon a place called *Montmorenciarum*, hence the present name. He was a celebrated brigand, and his descendants not proving more worthy than himself, *Louis-le-Gros* was obliged, in order to put some stop to their depredations, to enter their territory with an army, where, say the old chronicles, *il gasta tout par feu, et par glaive*. In after times, the Lords of Montmorency took the title of *Premiers Barons Chrétiens*, yet they were neither the first barons nor first Christians; but they were brave warriors and great captains, whose names shine in the historic page. Louis XIV., in 1639, by letters patent, changed the name of *Montmorency* to that of *Enghein*; but custom was more powerful than letters patent; it still went by its ancient name of *Montmorency*, until the revolution, more powerful than either custom or letters patent, called it *Emile*! It was, in fact, in this tower, that Rousseau composed his *Emilius*.

In the valley of *Chévreuse* stood the celebrated nunnery of *Port-Royal*. *Anselme de Chévreuse*, in 1304, was appointed, in consequence of his deeds of prowess, to carry the oriflamme.*

L'ILE ADAM, upon the left bank of the *Oise*, a village which derives its name from the *Sire Adam*. The lords of *L'ile Adam*.

* The oriflamme was composed of red silk, embroidered with golden flames: it belonged to the abbey of St. Denis, and was said to have been brought from heaven by an angel. It supplanted the banner of Saint Martin, which was composed of a piece of the old blue cloak of that Saint.

were much distinguished by their gallant conduct. It will not be forgotten, that, during the reign of *Philippe-le-Bel*, *Père Adam*, Grand Master of the Knights of Jerusalem, at the head of his brave companions in arms, successfully defended Rhodes against an army of 200,000 Turks.

SEVRES, at the foot of a hill, upon the left bank of the *Seine*. This town is very ancient, and was the seat of a *seigneur*, whose castle is now converted into a tannery. It possesses a very fine stone bridge, which was gallantly defended by the inhabitants against the Russians in 1815. *Sèvres* is celebrated for its china manufactory.

SAINT CLOUD is placed on the rapid descent of a hill, on the left banks of the *Seine*. The gardens and park are beautifully laid out, and are adorned with statues, groves, cascades, and fountains. *Le Notre* displayed all his taste in converting a barren soil into a scene of enchanting beauty, while *Mansard* and *Lepautre*, uniting the four châteaux which formerly belonged to different owners, formed the present edifice.

The historical recollections of *St. Cloud* have been already discussed; but, for the amusement of the curious, its origin and progressive renown shall be detailed.

Towards the middle of the sixth century, certain mariners descending the *Seine*, on their way from Paris, stopped opposite the spot where *Saint Cloud* now stands, and put on shore an infant king, whom his uncles, *Childbert* and *Cloaire*, had consigned to them for the purpose of assassination; but the mariners preserved the poor child's life, and *CLODVALDE* gave his name to *St. Cloud*, where he founded a monastery, and died in the odour of sanctity.

It was at *St. Cloud* that the Duke d'*Anjou*, afterwards Henry III., presided at the council which decreed the massacre of *Saint-Barthélemi*, on the first of August. It was on the first of August, 1589, precisely two centuries before the revolution, that Henry III. fell under the poinard of the jacobin, *Jacques Clement*. It was also, consequently, on the first of August, at *St. Cloud*, that the eldest branch of the house of Bourbon mounted the throne of France in the person of Henry IV. And it was at *Saint Cloud*, on the first of August, 1830, that the eldest branch of the line of Henry IV. fell from the throne in the person of Charles X. Curious enumeration of facts, which

would almost seem to sanction the idea of fortunate and fatal days.

Under the minority of Louis XIV., all the ground now contained in the enclosure of the park, was divided into four splendid *chateaux*, at that time remarkable for the beauty of their lakes and gardens. The young king, Louis XIV., wishing to bestow *Saint Cloud* on his brother, the Cardinal *de Mazarin* was desired to make the purchase of these houses: he accordingly repaired thither, and ingeniously contrived to outwit the cunning *Fouquet*, who, being well aware of the opinion the cardinal entertained of his extravagance, flattered himself he could, on the present occasion, effectually convince Mazarin that he much over-rated his profusion and expences; although, in fact, *Saint Cloud* had cost him upwards of a million of livres, and was fit for the habitation of a monarch. The cardinal having viewed and admired every part of the building, its furniture and decorations, addressed *Fouquet* thus:—

“This magnificent habitation must have cost an immense sum. I should think that, all together, it did not cost less than 120,000 livres.” “120,000!” cried *Fouquet*, “your éminence cannot think it! Is it in such times as these —? Oh, not so much by a great deal, I assure you.” “Well, 60,000 livres?” “Much less than that.” “40,000 livres?” “Still less.” “How much then?” “30,000 at the utmost.” “Really?” “Yes, I assure you.” “Very well,” added the cardinal, “I am delighted, for the king has commanded me to purchase your house of *St. Cloud*, and you must suppose that his majesty could not wish you should make a bad bargain with him. To-morrow I shall order you to be reimbursed your 30,000 livres, and *St. Cloud* now belongs to the king!”

It was thus that *St. Cloud* became the property of the house of *Orléans*, in whose possession it remained till 1782, when the queen, *Marie Antoinette*, purchased it. It was her favourite residence: she preferred *St. Cloud* to the pomp of *Versailles*, and enlarged the *château* by several buildings. During the period of revolutionary spoliation, *St. Cloud* was preserved by the National Convention. A decree, in 1793, comprised it among the number of palaces and gardens which were not to be sold. The Convention decided, “that the park of *St. Cloud* should be kept up at the expence of the republic, for the pleasures and enjoy-

ment of the people, and that the château should be devoted to useful establishments of agriculture and the arts."

It has again returned into the family of *Orléans*, as a gift of the nation, being appointed one of the royal palaces of Louis Philippe, King of the French.

The great events which took place at *St. Cloud* on the famous day of 18 Brumaire, are too well known to be recorded here. *St. Cloud* has, indeed, acquired immortality from being closely linked with the name of Buonaparte; before his time, it had been customary to speak of the *Cabinet of Versailles*; but during the reign of Napoleon, it was the Cabinet of *Saint Cloud* that decided the fate of Europe. It was to *Saint Cloud* that the emperor repaired almost always on his return from his grand excursions; it was also from *St. Cloud* that he usually set off either to Milan, to Vienna, Berlin, Tilsitt, Madrid, Dresden, Moscow: during more than ten years, the destinies of the world were decided in the Cabinet of *Saint Cloud*. But the wheel of fortune is ever turning; and at *St. Cloud*, in the same cabinet, in the very same chair, before the self-same desk, which had been occupied by the mighty Napoleon, we find *Prince Schavart Zemberg* seated in 1814; and the following year, Marshal Blücher taking possession of the same apartment, and *St. Cloud* itself made the head-quarters of the triumphant Austrian and Prussian troops!

5.—DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE ET MARNE.

This is an inland department (N.), composed of a part of the *Ile-de-France*, and *la Brie* and *Gâtinais*.

SOIL.—The undulating hills of this department are covered with fine pasture and arable lands; and, in the warmer situations, the blushing vine is cultivated.

RIVERS.—The *Marne*, *Ouche*, *Morin*, *Seine*, *Yonne*, and *Loing*, contribute to the fertility of *Seine et Marne*.

FORESTS.—That of Fontainebleau is the principal; it covers 31,424 acres.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are some mineral waters, but no establishment for the accommodation of visitors.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Henry III., Louis XIII., and Amyot.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, dependent upon the bishop of Meaux. The Protestant churches of this department depend upon the consistorial church of Meaux: it likewise contains two Bible Societies, and two Protestant schools.

This department is divided into five *arrondissements*: *Melun, Meaux, Fontainebleau, Coulommiers, and Provins.*

The civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale of Paris*. It is comprised in the first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MELUN is an ancient and ill-built town, on the banks of the *Seine*. Its prison, and the products of the labour of the prisoners, are remarkable; but *Melun* in itself presents no object of interest to arrest the steps of the traveller, although it is the capital of the department. The town is divided into three parts; one of which is called *la Cité*, and the inhabitants proverbially use the proverb, *Après Melun, Paris!* observing that Paris was built in imitation of *Melun*! *Melun* has been several times besieged, and bravely defended. *Robert le Pieux* having got possession of this town by a miracle, the walls having fallen down in consequence of his prayers, made it his seat of residence, and his descendants, for three hundred years, honoured *Melun* with their presence.

Melun carries on a brisk trade in corn, wine, flour, and cheese. It has, also, a manufacture of printed cloths, tanneries, lime-kilns, &c.

Long. $0^{\circ} 16'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 33'$. Twelve leagues South-east from Paris; five posts and a half.

FONTAINEBLEAU.—Here every thing bears the stamp of royalty. *Saint Louis* called this town his desert, his solitude; and, indeed, the profound quiet which reigns in the streets, may still bestow upon it the same title. The forest is beautiful and extensive: it occupies 24,424 acres. *Restin* thus describes it—

Champs de Fontainebleau, délicieux déserts,
Qu'a seul rendus fameux le cristal de vos ondes,
J'irai m'ensevelir dans vos grottes profondes,
Parmi vos noirs rochers, sous vos ombrages verts,
Et solitaire ami des biches vagabondes,
Dans leur plus beau domaine, oublier l'univers.

Là maître enfin de moi, sans soins et sans affaire,
 Dans un étroit enclos renfermant mes desirs,
 Content de peu d'amis, d'une seule bergère
 Je mettrai mon bonheur à l'aimer, à lui plaire,
 Et mon orgueil peut-être, à chanter nos plaisirs.

The palace of Fontainebleau is a superb building, erected upon the designs of *Primaticci*. The *galerie des cerfs* has been rendered infamously celebrated, by the murder of *Monachelli*, by the order of Christine, Queen of Sweden. It has been the scene of many interesting events. About the middle of the twelfth century there was *maison royale* at this place. In 1169, Louis VII. replaced it by a castle, which he called *Fontaine Bleaud*. It was a favourite residence of Philippe Augustus and Saint Louis. He founded an hospital within its precincts, which still exists. Louis XI. collected many books and manuscripts within its walls. Francis I. nearly reconstructed it, and greatly adorned it. Henry II., Charles IX., and Henry III. continued these works; and Henry IV. made it his favourite residence. Henry III., Louis XIII., the dauphin, son of Louis XIV., and many renowned individuals, were born in this palace. The *Grand Condé* died in it. Here, likewise, Louis XIV. signed the revocation of the edict of Nantes; Louis XV. married *Marie Leczinska*; Napoleon gave his hand to Marie Louise, of Austria; and here, too, he signed his abdication. The table is still shown upon which this important deed was completed. This emperor greatly beautified the palace. It consists of six chateaux, joined together, which enclose five principal courts; in the largest of these, that of the *cour du cheval blanc*, Napoleon addressed his soldiers on his final abdication. It is enclosed by superb iron balustrades, 104 feet long. The library, containing 28,000 volumes, is placed in the chapel erected by Francis I. The garden is admirably arranged. Several pieces of water are interspersed, which greatly add to its beauty. In the centre is a spacious basin, called *l'Etang* (the pond), abounding with carp of an enormous size. The waters of this pond, above the canal of the park, form several pretty cascades. The park is traversed by this canal, which was made by Henry IV. It is bordered on each side by beautiful avenues of trees.

Fontainebleau was appointed as the residence of the Pope, during the sequestration of his temporal power, by Buonaparte.

It carries on a good trade in preserved juniper-berries, grapes, fruits, soap, china, pottery, &c.

Long. $0^{\circ}20'$; lat. $48^{\circ}24'$. Fifteen leagues South-east of Paris.

MEAUX, *Latinum Meldæ*, is agreeably situated upon the *Marne*. It is a pretty and ancient town, and contains many interesting monuments of antiquity. The legends of the town attribute its foundation to ages before the Christian era. It was first called *Jatinum*. Pliny calls it *Meldæ*. Cæsar speaks of it in his Commentaries; and it was here he constructed forty vessels, for his descent upon England. The Romans, wherever they established themselves, supplanted the religion of the Druid; and at Meaux they erected temples to Janus and Pomona. Soon after their erection, *Saint Saintin* founded the first Christian church; and *Saint Faron* erected the abbey of *Farenoustiers*, and that of *Sainte-Croix*, which to this day bears the name of its founder. The episcopal palace, erected on the designs of *Le Nôtre*, is a fine building. The *Hôtel Dieu* and the library are not extraordinarily grand, although the latter contains many precious manuscripts; but its cathedral is worth examining. It is built on the ruins of the heathen temple, already mentioned, which was destroyed in the thirteenth century. It is a superb edifice: a fine statue of *Bossuet* adorns its interior. Upon one of the lateral doors of the church belonging to the archiepiscopal seminary, the arms of *Jean Roze*, its founder, are to be seen. At first it was destined to contain twenty-five blind persons, and ten children of the poor. He is said to have made his fortune by purchasing corn when it was cheap, and selling it under the current price when it was dear.

Long. East $34^{\circ}30''$; lat. $48^{\circ}57'97''$. Twelve leagues North-east of Paris.

PROVINS is divided by *Voalizie*, into the upper and lower town. The latter is less ancient than the former, and is by far the most agreeable and handsome. Its streets are wide and clean; they are bordered by white houses, which have a cheerful appearance. The walks in its neighbourhood are beautiful, and a mineral spring contributes not a little to the gaiety of the town, and of the visitors, who resort thither in search of pleasure, if not of health. The *hôtel de ville*, and the tomb of *Thibaut*, are the only objects worth particularizing. The convent of the Cordeliers was made head-quarters by Henry IV., when he got possession of the town. A vigneron (vine-dresser) having pointed a cannon

at the convent, the ball fell in the apartment of the king, who exclaimed, *Ventre Saint Gris quel vigneron!* The upper town contains the church of *Saint Quiriace*, built about the tenth century, and is remarkable for the boldness of its choir. The castle of the Counts of *Champagne* is still in existence; it is now a college. It is presumed that Charlemagne here struck those pieces of money which bore this motto,—*Castris Pruvinis*. The old tower, which commands the town, is indifferently attributed to *Clovis* or *Cæsar*, but it is most likely that the latter claims the honour, since the arms of the town consist of a tower, with this motto,—*Struxit me Cæsare major*. In the environs of *Provins* the red rose is much cultivated, for it is in much request by the perfumers; the inhabitants, also, make a great deal of conserve of roses, which is an article of commerce, as well as hay, tanned leathers, coarse stuffs, linsey-woolsey stuffs, &c.

Long. East 57° 28"; lat. 48° 33' 39". Twenty-two leagues South-east of Paris.

Near Lagny there is a rock 60 feet high, and 160 wide, rising from a mountain. At one of its extremities there is a grotto, twenty feet deep, and twenty feet wide. A spring, descending from the summit of the mountain, flows to the opening of the grotto, disappears for an instant, then returns, and throws itself into a basin. When this water flowed more freely, it doubtless contributed to the formation of this whimsical rock. At present, it petrifies only the most delicate fibres of plants, mosses, &c., which form heaps of calcareous bodies, composed of very curious ramifications.

It is indebted to one of its counts, *Thibout*, for much of its prosperity, although it is no longer what it has been. He collected thither clever artisans, from all parts of Europe—dyers, tanners, fullers, wool-carders, &c. &c. *Provins* was, in the thirteenth century, a place of so great renown for trade, that the merchants of France, Lombardy, Genoa, Flanders, Holland, and Germany, repaired thither with the richest merchandise known in those days.

But in these its days of temporal prosperity, its religious, or rather its superstitious, observances, were many of them tinctured with licentious profanation of holy things. The "feast of asses," and the "feast of fools," were, in the fourteenth century, celebrated with bacchanalian revels, even in the bosom of the sanc-

ary. The feast of asses was solemnized thus:—The choir children and the sub-deacons covered an ass with a large cape and conducted it into the church, followed by an immense number of spectators. The following is a specimen of the song which attended his entrance into the church :

Un âne fort et beau
Est arrive de l'orient ;
Hé ! sire âne - hé ! chantez ;
Belle bouche rechignez,
Vous aurez du foin assez,
Et de l'avoine à planté.

The ass was then conducted to the altar, and there they sang—*Amen, amen, Miser Ass, hé, hé, hé ! sing, Mr. Ass, hé, hé, hé ! Mr. Ass.* Mass was then celebrated ; and instead of the usual termination, "*ite missa est,*" the officiating priest brayed three times, like a donkey, to whom the people replied in the same harmonious sounds.

This procession took place on Palm Sunday, in the chapel of Saint Nicholas. After the sermon the ass was turned into the church-yard.

The ceremonies of the feast of fools are not known. Dancing has ever been a favourite amusement in all parts of France, and no where has it been more solemnly employed than in Pro vins. The sacred dance, if it be not profanation to apply the word to such a ceremony, the sacred dance of *Saint Quiriace* was only abolished so late as the year 1710. An ecclesiastical record states, that, in 1436, the chapter gave fourteen pints of wine (in the church) during the dance of the choir. The day of the nativity of the virgin, the perpetual vicar of the church of Saint Quiriace, chose one of the prettiest girls in the town, arrayed in white, whom he conducted to the most conspicuous situation in the choir. Having kissed her, he sang the anthem, *Ave Regina* ; after the anthem, he took her by the hand, and, dressed in his cape, he led her up the aisle, and at the portal he commenced the dance.

Several other fêtes of this same kind were celebrated at Pro vins, but this example must suffice.

SECTION VII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF FLANDRE FRANCAISE,

CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT DU NORD.

*Pont Royal-à Lille.*

This is a maritime and frontier department (N.), composed of the ancient provinces of French Hainault, French Flanders, and Cambresis.

SOIL.—Near the coast the soil is stony, or sandy; and near the sea coast the downs, or *dunes*, present a melancholy aspect; but the interior of the department consists of a rich, fat earth.

MOUNTAINS.—The hills of this department, though very lofty, are not mountainous; even the elevation on which *Mont Cassel* stands, which is 580 feet above the level of the sea, and is of a conical form, and from which it is said England may be discovered, is not a mountain.

MARSHES.—These have been drained to a great extent. Near *Hazebrouck* there is a pond known by the name of *Clair Marais*, which has been formed from these marshes. It is so deep as to

support on its surface floating islands, some of which contain a superficies of 600 feet, which can be moved at pleasure, and upon which graze a number of cattle.

RIVERS.—The navigable rivers of this department are the *Au*, the *Colme*, the *Lys*, the *Bourre*, the *Lave*, the *Scarpe*, and the *Sambre*.

CANALS.—Nineteen canals, or branch canals, intersect this department.

MINES.—This department contains iron mines and pit-coal, quarries of marble, chalk, potters' clay, fossils, &c. The mine of Antiche produces annually about 245,000 hectolitres of coal. Those of *Anzin*, of *Vieux Condé*, of *Fresnes*, &c., produce about 2,830,000 hectolitres, and employ about 4,000 workmen. The expense of working an hectolitre is sixty-five centimes.

MINERAL WATERS.—The mineral waters and mud of *Saint Amand* are renowned; the former are used for affections of the liver, and the latter in paralytic or rheumatic maladies.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—The department contains many learned societies, botanic gardens, schools for drawing, painting, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Baldwin, Count of Flanders, afterwards Emperor; *Philippe de Commines*, *Froissard*, *Monstrelet*; names which need no comment: *Calonne*, minister of Louis XIV.; *Jean Bart*, and his son; *Mortier*, Duke of *Treviso*; *Aoust*, &c.

RELIGION is Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of *Cambrai*. The Protestants have a consistorial church, consisting of three pastors, and divided into three sections; at *Lille*, *Quircy*, and *Valincourt*. There are besides seven temples or houses of prayer, one Bible Society, four societies of evangelical missions, and at Dunkirk there are a few Quakers. There is also a Jewish synagogue at *Lille*.

This department is divided into six *arrondissements*, viz.: *Lille*, *Avesne*, *Cambrai*, *Douai*, *Dunkerque*, and *Hazebrouck*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Douai*, and it is comprised in the sixteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LILLE.—The chief city of this department is situated on the rivers *la Deule* and *la Lys*, in a rich and fertile soil. *Lille* is a very ancient city, for it was founded A.D. 1007, by *Badouin IV*. But it has even higher claims to antiquity than this; for it is

said that Julius Cæsar built here the castle of *Buc* : it has been a theatre for many sanguinary scenes, and has had many masters.

It was formerly the capital of Flanders, and was considered of great strength. Its citadel is the first in Europe : it was the first erected by *Vauban*.

The *Deûle*, which may be rather termed a canal than a river, has its banks adorned by pretty country houses, one story high, surrounded by gardens, in which the poplars are forbidden to rise higher than the reeds, and the reeds must not overtop the cabbages, because the cannon of the citadel so ordain it. In some instances these houses are placed on four wheels, in order to facilitate their removal, in case the convenience of the cannon should require it. All in Lille, in fact, breathes war—soldiers, cannon, drawbridges, &c. &c. Among the comforts of that class of human kind, whose means compel them to be content with what their means can afford, the *Vinaigrette*, a carriage of two wheels, drawn by a man, is, perhaps, the most striking to a stranger. This kind of carriage is common in many parts of France, and is a great accommodation.

Lille contains a good library, a museum, the bridge of l'Esplanade, a theatre, good baths, a botanic garden, a vegetable market, and one for beasts. Lille is rather of an oval form, and the streets are almost all straight, wide, and so directed, that they receive the rays of the sun from the dawning to the closing of the day. The manner of living in this city reminds one of that in England. Tea or milk, coffee, with *slices* (tastines) of bread and butter, constitute the breakfast. The dinner consists, generally, of a superfluity in quantity. Beer is the general beverage, though wine appears at the table, and towards the middle of the repast is resorted to, as well as liqueurs. Coffee in the evening ; and as the dinner is early in the day, it is closed by a supper. The furniture is more convenient and useful than elegant, and the inhabitants pique themselves, not only upon the fineness, but upon the dazzling whiteness of their linen.

Besides the manufactures of linen and cloths, Lille has much commerce in serges, camlets, tools of every description, oils, glass, earthenware, china, laces, and paper. The environs produce many oily grains, linseed, and tobacco.

It is the country of *Alain de Lille*.

Long. $0^{\circ} 44' 16''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 67' 50''$. Fifty-five leagues North

of Paris; thirty posts by Saint Quentin, and twenty-nine by Amiens.

DUNKIRK is a large and commercial town, situated on the sea-coast: though most advantageously placed for trade, the inhabitants admit that that is its principal advantage, since, as far as health is concerned, it is anything but desirable, particularly in the summer. Louis XIV. bought it of Charles II., of England, A.D. 1662, and spent immense sums on its fortifications, which were, however, destroyed at the treaty of Utrecht. Its principal manufactures are of starch, ropes, hollands, and glass. Fish, too, is very abundant, and very fine.

The houses of Dunkirk are seldom above one story high. The uniformity of their height, and their large windows, produce a very pleasing effect. Those houses, which are elevated one story higher, are ornamented with an elegant front. The church of Saint Eloi is the only remarkable building in the town; its portal resembles that of the Pantheon at Paris. The square Dauphine is a long square, planted on each side with trees, in the middle of which is a bust of Jean Bart, so small and mean, as to be unworthy of this great man. The port is, in fact, a canal, which is only full at high tide. It is a quarter of a league from the sea, which, at low tide, displays extensive sands. Dunkirk has excellent anchorage; the sailors of the place, who have seen no other, say, the finest in the world. Dunkirk was first inhabited by fishermen; but so early as the twelfth century it had become so considerable, as to fit out a squadron, which successfully attacked the piratical Normans, or Northmen.

The name of Dunkirk is thus accounted for. It is situated on fine downs (*dunes*); and on the spot where it now stands was once a solitary church, which, in the Flemish language, is expressed by the word *kereke*. The ramparts are formed of sand, collected from the downs, and covered over by turf, which has the appearance of green velvet.

Long. $0^{\circ}2'23''$; Lat. $51^{\circ}2'11''$. Seventy-four leagues from Paris.

MONT CASSEL is a very pretty town, built on a hill, from which there is one of the finest views in the world. Looking southward, the eye ranges over immense forests, occasionally interrupted by towns and villages; thirty-two of the former are said to be discernible from this lofty situation, and more than one hundred of the latter. By turning round, the spectator enjoys an extensive

view of the ocean, generally, in this part of the world, thickly studded with vessels, of various sizes. Mont Cassel is celebrated for having been the witness, not only to many military actions, in the plain at its base, but for having been, at three different and distant periods, an object of warlike interest and enterprise to three different kings of France, of the name of Philippe. Philippe I. was defeated before its walls, by Robert le Frison, A.D. 1071. Philippe de Valois defeated the Flemings, A.D. 1328, and set the city on fire, and put all the inhabitants to the sword, in order to revenge the ironical legend, which the Flemings had painted on a standard, bearing, also, the effigy of a cock.

Quant ce coq chanté aura,
Le roi,—Cassel conquerra.*

Philippe d'Orléans gained a complete victory over the Prince of Orange, 1697, in the neighbourhood of this town.

Long. $0^{\circ} 9' 9''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 47' 54''$. Sixty-three leagues North of Paris.

ARMENTIÈRES.—This town is not fortified, indeed it is almost too insignificant to mention, were it not for a *fête du pays*, called *hermesse*, or *ducasse d'Armentières*, in which the chaffinch and its fellows are the chief actors and objects of attraction. Numbers of these birds are trained with the greatest care, and no small share of cruelty, for they are frequently blinded by their owners, that their song may not be interrupted by any external object. The point upon which the amusement, the honour, and the emolument rests, is, the number of times which a bird will repeat his song in a given time. A day being fixed, the amateurs repair to the appointed place, each with his bird in a cage. The prize is then displayed, and the birds are placed in a row. A bird-fancier notes how many times each bird sings, and another verifies his notes. In the year 1812, a chaffinch repeated his song seven hundred times in one hour. Enulated by the songs of each other, they strain their little "plumed throats," as if conscious that honour was to result from their exertions.

Armentières carries on a trade in cloths, stockings, and shapoises.

Long. $0^{\circ} 27'$; lat. $50^{\circ} 40'$. Fifty-four leagues North of Paris.

* When this cock shall have sung,
The king,—Cassel shall have won.

DOUAY is a well-fortified town, seated on the river Scarpe. The ditches are large, but the walls are very simple, and only furnished with a few demi-lunes. In the fifth century, Douay was but a Flemish castle, which St. Amand, two hundred years afterwards, enlarged; since which period it has gradually become a place of importance, and has been frequently taken and retaken by the neighbouring powers.

Lawns, cambrics, sewing thread, laces, gauzes, camlets, and tapestry, are among its manufactures; and sugar-refiners and manufacturers of glass bottles have, likewise, established marts within its walls. The soil around it is rich, and produces linseed, hops, and several grains from which oil is expressed.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 44' 47''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 22' 12''$. Forty-nine leagues North of Paris.

CAMBRAY, anciently called *Camerarum*, is a beautiful city, seated on the Scheldt. Its cathedral is a fine building; the spire of its belfry is remarkably elegant; but in the ever-memorable year, 1793, it was stripped of the iron which supported it, and it now threatens some day to fall. Near to this, before the revolution, stood the tomb of the venerable Fenelon. The great square has a fine effect. The town-hall is renowned for its chiming clock, and two figures, of a man and woman, in a moorish habit, who, with a great hammer, strike the hour. These illustrious automats are called *Martin et Martine*. It has become a proverbial question throughout Flanders, when a person talks nonsense, or holds forth irrational opinions and maintains them, to enquire, whether he has not been to Cambray, in allusion to the possibility of his having received a blow on the head from the hammers of M. Martin and his wife. The fortifications of this place were constructed under the direction of Vauban.

The surrounding country is fertile, and produces linseed, hops, and grain of every description. Its manufactures consist of linen, cambric, laces, thread, and tapestry. There are, also, fine and extensive bleaching grounds in its neighbourhood. Population, 13,880.

Long. $0^{\circ} 53' 32''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 10' 37''$. Forty-two leagues North of Paris.

VALENCIENNES, an ancient, large, and considerable city, seated on the Scheldt, which divides it into two parts, is protected by a citadel and fortifications; but it has never recovered the

dreadful effects of the bombardment of 1793, which lasted during forty-three days, and which destroyed all the public edifices. Some authors attribute the foundation of Valenciennes to the Emperor Valentinian. Its situation is, indeed, so beautiful, and so fertile, that it is not at all unlikely that the Romans should make it the seat of one of their cities. It is very certain that its archers, surnamed *Valenciennesois*, partook, with the Roman legions, in the honours of many of their conquests.

Its manufactures resemble those of Cambray, and that lace which is called, par excellence, Valenciennes.

Long. $1^{\circ} 11' 40''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 21' 27''$. Fifty leagues North-east by North of Paris.

BAVAY, though now a town of small importance, is, nevertheless, the oldest in the department. The remains of Roman edifices, which are still to be seen, attest its occupation by that warlike people. In the time of Cæsar, Bavay was but a heap of cottages, defended by mud walls, and surrounded by a ditch. Under the reign of Augustus it became the capital of a province; and Tiberius, when he commanded in Gaul, made a solemn entry into Bavay; but this prosperity did not last long, for it was destroyed by the Huns, A.D. 385. In its vicinity are the ruins of a circus, and those of an aqueduct, which passed under the Sambre. In 1790, a bronze tripod, bearing the effigies of Bacchus, was found in the river.

Forty-seven leagues North-east of Paris.

SECTION VIII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF ARTOISE ET BOULONNAIS,

CONTAINING,

THE DEPARTMENT OF PAS DE CALAIS.

THIS is a maritime department (N.), composed of Artois, and some former dependencies of *Lower Picardie*, the *Boulonnais*, the *Calaisis*, and *Ponthieu*.

SOIL.—The soil is in general excellent, though not everywhere equally fertile. It consists, in some parts, of a calcareous

bottom, covered with a light layer of earth. The rest is composed of a rich alluvial soil.

MOUNTAINS.—The department does not rank among the mountainous countries of France. There are many gradually rising hills, but no mountains, properly speaking.

DOWNLS.—These consist of extensive lands along the coast, which change their appearance frequently, from the vast bodies of moveable sands, which threaten destruction to the cultivated lands in their vicinity.

PORTS.—There are six sea-ports in this department, viz.: *Boulogne, Calais, Ambleteuse, Etaples, Wimereux, and Wissant.* The two former are alone navigable for large vessels.

MARSHES.—The immense quantities of turf which are dug from the marshes have transformed them into ponds.

RIVERS.—This department is watered by a great number of rivers. Seven of these, though of small importance, are the *Lys*; the *Scarpe*, the *Canche*, the *Au*, the *Anthie*, the *Ternoise*, and the *Larve*.

CANALS.—The department is intersected by the canals *Saint Omer, Neuf Fossés, Ardres, la March, and la Bussée.*

ROADS.—The department is traversed by thirteen royal roads, and by ten departmental roads.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—At *Arras, Montreuil, Saint Omer, Boulogne, and Calais*, there are societies of agriculture, commerce, and the arts and sciences. At *Arras* there is a royal society, for the encouragement of the sciences, letters, and the arts; and a botanic garden, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Eustache de Saint Pierre*, whose heroism is too well known to need any comment. *Suger, Abbot of Saint Denis*, and Regent of France during the reign of *Saint Louis*; *Lefebvre*, Préceptor to one of the sons of *François I.*; *La Place*; and the two *Robespierres*!

RELIGION is Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of *Arras*. The Protestants have a church at *Lille*, dependent upon the consistorial church of *Arras*: besides which there are three temples, or houses of prayers. There are also two Bible Societies in this department.

This department is divided into six *arrondissemens*, viz.: *Arras, Saint Omer, Saint Pol, Montreuil, Boulogne, and Bethune.*

Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royal* of *Douai*, and it is comprised in the sixteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ARRAS is the capital; it is seated on the side of a mountain; it is divided into two parts, the town and the city; the former is subject to the Abbot of *Saint Vedast*, and the latter to the Bishop of *Arras*. A strong wall and a large fosse divide the city from the town: they are both enclosed by high ramparts, and by double deep fosses, cut out of the solid rock. These fortifications are, however, in many parts much neglected. The citadel was built by the celebrated *Vauban*, and, though small, it is considered one of the strongest in France. It has received the name of *la Relle Inutile*, because being erected on the side of France, it can never defend the city.*

The ancient inhabitants of *Arras* were so convinced of the great importance of their city, and so confident that it never could be taken, that they had the presumption to place over one of its gates the following inscription:—

*Quand les Français prendront Arras,
Les souris mangeront les chats.†*

Louis XIII., however, took *Arras*, on the 10th of August, 1640, and was content to leave the inscription standing, removing only the letter *p* from the word *prendront*.

The great square, which is likewise a market-place, is surrounded by a fine piazza. The town-house is situated in the lesser market. It has a high tower, surmounted by a brazen lion, which serves as a vane.

In the middle of this market-place is the chapel of the Holy Candle, which, according to tradition, was brought thither, by

* The capture of this place caused Caesar much trouble; but when once he got possession of it, the Gauls in vain attempted to drive him from this strong hold, which he, no doubt, fortified and strengthened after the Roman fashion.

When by Frenchmen Arras shall be taken,
The cats by mice shall then be eaten.

By removing the *p* from the French word *prendront*, the words *shall take* would be translated into *shall restore*; in English—

When Frenchmen Arras shall restore,
The mice will then the cats devour.

the Virgin, about 600 years ago, at a time when Arras was afflicted by a sore disease. Whoever touched this candle was cured. The relic is kept in a silver shrine. The cathedral church of Notre Dame, which stands in the city, is a fine gothic building, and the clock contains a curious piece of mechanism, representing the passion of our Saviour.

The abbey church of Arras is the greatest ornament of the place. The steeple is remarkable for its beauty, and the seats of the canons are of admirable workmanship. The pulpit is formed in the shape of a tree, supported by two bears, sitting on their hind legs, while several smaller ones are climbing up the tree. The whole of this curious piece of workmanship is of brass. The chimes execute many tunes. The city contains eleven parish churches, and a great many religious houses, both for monks and nuns. It is from this town, where it was manufactured in great perfection, that the *tapestry*, or *Arras*, takes its name.

Arras is situated on the small river of Chénichron, that falls into the Scarpe, about 100 paces below the town, which it divides from the city.

Long. East $1^{\circ} 56'$; lat. North $50^{\circ} 17'$. Forty-four leagues North of Paris.

Bethune, *St. Venant*, and *St. Omer*, are likewise in the department of the PAS DE CALAIS; *Douay* and *Boulogne-sur-mer*; the latter, a very large sea-port town, with a fine harbour, and a mole for the safety of shipping, which, likewise, prevents its being choked up by the sands. The town is divided into two parts; the higher and lower town. The lower town is inhabited, principally, by sailors and fishermen, though there are now many new houses built, which are inhabited by strangers, who have made this part of France their home. At the time that the invasion of England was contemplated, during the reign of Buonaparte, two large basins were constructed, in which vessels were always afloat. At the period in question, these basins were so thick set with cannon, that they were called *côtes de fer*; yet it is said that the French Emperor never had any intention of invading England! Boulogne is much frequented by visitors, besides having a great number of English residents. The church of *Notre Dame de Boulogne*, in the town, is of great repute

among its Catholic inhabitants, the spot upon which it is built being pointed out by the Virgin herself.

It was on a bright sunny evening, when not a cloud was to be seen, nor a breath of wind felt, that a small boat was seen advancing to the shore. Long before it approached so near that the spectators could discern its inmates, a bright star was seen, as of the presiding genius of the bark: at length the Virgin was discerned, and in her arms the infant Jesus, St. Peter rowing gently to the shore. The Virgin, upon landing, proceeded to the spot where the church now stands; and Peter, having removed the earth and placed a stone, the inhabitants immediately comprehended that it was the Virgin's pleasure the church should occupy that spot.

Fish, salt, butter, and honey, are the chief articles of commerce at Boulogne.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 45' 27''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 43' 31''$. Fifty-eight leagues North of Paris.

We must not omit mentioning the small town of ARDRES, which is seated on the side of a hill; it is divided into two parts, the old and new town. When Francis I. and Henry VIII. held their court and conference at this place, the town being too small to accommodate them and their suite, they covered the adjacent plain with numerous and splendid tents, so that it received the name of *the Plain of the Cloth of Gold*.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 26'$; lat. $50^{\circ} 48'$. Sixty-two leagues West of Paris.

At BOYVAL, a small village in this department, there is a well not less than a hundred feet deep, which, for a fortnight or three weeks together, will be quite dry, and the waters will then return with so much abundance, as to form a considerable stream in its environs. It is also singular that this rise and fall of the waters depends upon the north wind, so that the villagers are perfectly well acquainted with the periods of its overflowing; because, when the wind is east, west, or south, it is more or less full; but, when north, it is a dry well. Near this village, a little to the west, stands AGINCOURT, so celebrated for the victory obtained by the English A.D. 1415, over the unfortunate John of France.

ST. OMER.—The streets of St. Omer are wide, but the houses

are low; and, generally speaking, have a mean appearance; they are built of grey or red bricks, some few of white stone. The barracks, which are situated on the ramparts, are extensive and fine buildings. The church of *Saint Bertin*, which is now falling into decay, formerly belonged to the order of *Saint Benet*. In its days of splendour, no woman was permitted to enter within its walls, neither were their bones allowed a resting place within its sacred limits. The lords of the altar were lords of the soil: they were exclusives. The cathedral is a gothic edifice, much admired. The Fauxbourg du Haut-Pont affords a beautiful walk for the inhabitants, and is highly interesting to strangers: this walk is situated on the north side of the town, being flanked by the embankment of the canal. The adjacent lands are chiefly occupied by gardeners, whose little domains are intersected and watered by numerous canals, the greater part of which are navigable for small boats, which form necessary articles of garden furniture to these island gardeners.

Among the domestic customs of the inhabitants, the following, which, as far as our observation and reading extends, we presume cannot be general in France: first, the strewing sand over the kitchen and hall floors, carrying water and milk in pails suspended to a yoke, and calling *hot rolls* about the streets in the morning, all of which are obviously *English*. But there is another custom that has certainly some resemblance to the English statute fairs; it is peculiar, it seems, to St. Omer. All the young servant girls who want places repair to the town on market days, and form themselves into circles, with their faces outward, taking hold of each other by the hands: persons who want servants walk round them, and make their choice, which is announced by their taking by the hand the girl whom they fix on as their future servant, and leading her from the circle. St. Omer, anciently *Sitiex*, is situated on the river Aa, in a marsh. It produces grain, flax, horses, and wool: its manufactures are in cloths, linen, and cotton: there are also many sugar refiners in the town, and in its neighbourhood many windmills and water-mills for extracting vegetable oils.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 5' 3''$; lat. $50^{\circ} 41' 46''$. Fifty-six leagues North of Paris.

CALAIS, which was for two hundred years in the possession of the

English, has a citadel and a fortified harbour: it is built in the form of a triangle, one side of which runs along the sea-shore. The gate of Calais has been immortalized by the celebrated picture of Hogarth. The cathedral was built by the English, subsequently to A.D. 1346. The streets are regularly built, in yellow bricks, which are for the most part covered with lime and mortar, so as to resemble stone. The parish church contains a celebrated altar-piece, painted by Vandyke; the ramparts of Calais form an agreeable promenade: it also contains a good citadel, an arsenal, public baths, and a superb garden and public rooms. Like other towns of France, it has its annual fairs, in January and July, for nine days each.

Its commerce consists in salt, soap, brandy, claret, and Spanish wines; and fish particularly cod. It was from Calais, on the 7th of January, 1786, that Blanchard accompanied by Dr. Jeffreys, commenced his daring exploit of crossing the Pas de Calais to Dover in a balloon: the boat in which he returned from Dover is still preserved in the Town Hall. It is more deservedly celebrated for the heroism of its six burgesses, who devoted themselves as willing victims to appease the wrath of Edward III. of England: happily for them, they found a successful advocate in the heroic Philippa, queen of the English monarch.

Calais has the reputation of not witnessing one solitary political execution, during the horrors of the revolution, from 1794 to 1798. In 1346 Edward III. of England, after his great victory at Cressy, reduced Calais by famine: in 1558 the Duke of Guise recaptured it by surprise. In 1596 it was taken by assault by the Spaniards, under the Archduke Albert.

Long. West $0^{\circ}28'59''$; lat. $50^{\circ}59'31''$. Sixty-eight leagues North of Paris. Population 6,000 souls.

BASSAUME is a fortified town; and although Cambray, Valenciennes, and Saint Quentin, enjoy all the reputation of manufacturing the fine cambrics and lawns so much sought after by foreign countries, this small town has really the honour of producing the finest cambrics.

At the mouth of the Somme stands St. VALERY, on one side, and CROTOY on the other; in this last place, the unfortunate and heroic Joan of Arc was confined in a dungeon previous to her being transferred to Rouën; and near this place, behind the

forest of Cressy, which is seen from the high road between Boulogne and Montreuil, extends the plain of Cressy, immortalised by the decisive combat between Edward of England and Philip of Valois: it was in this battle that the English first made use of cannon. Four great battles stand on record between England and France, and by which this fine country has been completely at the mercy of the conquerors: viz., Poitiers, Agincourt, Cressy, and Waterloo. Had the love of glory and dominion animated in all ages the British cabinet, the European dominions of the English crown would be next to those of Russia on the continent,—for who could have quarrelled with the victor's share of the spoil?

SECTION IX.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF PICARDIE,

CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOMME.

THIS is a maritime and frontier département (N). It is composed of the ancient province of *Picardie*.

SOIL.—The soil of this département is exceedingly varied. It is, however, rich, particularly about *Marquenterre*. Some parts are marley; some produce an ample supply of turf, which the inhabitants burn instead of wood. In the western parts there are extensive forests.

RIVERS.—The principal of these are, the *Avre*, the *Somme*, the *Authie*, the *Noye*, the *Celle*, and the *Bresle*; the two former alone are navigable.

FORESTS.—The forest of *Crecy* is the most important as to its extent, and to the historical recollections connected with it.

QUARRIES.—*Picardie* contains some quarries of freestone; and near *Boulogne-sur-mer* there is a quarry of grey marble, which is very productive.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Saint Christ* there is a mineral spring, of the same nature as those of *Forges* and *Aumale*; they are considered highly efficacious in diseases of the liver and spleen.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There is, at *Amiens*, an Academy of

Sciences, of Agriculture, of Commerce, of Belles Lettres and Arts : it also contains botanic gardens, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The two Cardinals *Pierre d'Ailly* and *Alecarain* ; and many individuals of the families of *Boufflers*, *Ailly*, *Mailly*, and *Créqui*, of whom it was proverbially said, *tel nom, tels armes, tel cri*, were natives of *Picardie* ; *John Baliol*, King of Scotland ; the geographers *Duval* and *Delisle* ; the Maréchal d'*Estrées*, General *Foy*, the two *Levasseurs*, the one, a celebrated player upon the violincello, the other an engraver ; *Pierre L'Hermite*, *Voiture*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Amiens* ; but the Protestants have a consistorial church at *Amiens*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Amiens*, *Abbeville*, *Doullens*, *Peronne*, *Montdidier*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royal* of *Amiens* ; it is comprised in the fifteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AMIENS, anciently *Ambianum*, is the chief city of this department situated upon the river *Somme*. Tradition affirms, that *Amiens* was a flourishing city when *Paris* was but a castle : *Louis XI.* called it his *Little Venice*, because the *Somme* forms so many canals, and intersects the neighbouring country in a very advantageous, as well as very beautiful manner, for these canals turn many mills, which add considerably to the pleasing effect of their serpentine waters.

Every year, on the night of the first Tuesday in March, these canals are covered with gondolas, enlightened by flambeaux ; formerly, this ceremony was one of actual sport, for it was instituted as a *chase of the swans*, which live in the canals. The scene is very animated and pleasing, as well as peaceable in these days, the swans being allowed free possession of the waters ; while the inhabitants of *Amiens*, young and old, of every station, as well as many strangers who resort to *Amiens* at this season to witness and partake of this singular spectacle, glide gaily and merrily along the canals, turning the night into day, by the light of their flambeaux, and disturbing its silence by their joyous songs and mutual greetings. The cathedral of

Amiens is a superb edifice, and was erected in the year 1288, and is the only remains of any building in the city which has claims even to modern antiquity. The nave and the steeple are exceedingly fine; it contains one hundred and twenty-six pillars, forty-four of which are completely detached: those which surround the choir sound like a bell when struck; one in particular, called *Le Sonore*, emits so intense a sound at the smallest percussion, as to astonish every one.

The church of St. Germain's is likewise a very fine gothic building; and that of the Celestins, built in 1732 after a design of Michel Angelo Carestie, is deservedly celebrated for the majesty of its portal and its dome. At the extremity of the street *de l'Adventure*, there is a vast hydraulic machine, which distributes water to all the fountains of the city; and near the herb-market there is a belfry, in which a watch is stationed at night, who makes known the hour by blowing a horn. In the parish of Saint Firmin, the dungeon is shewn in which the saint of that name was beheaded in the reign of Dioclesian.

The celebrated Colbert established many of the manufactures of this city, which now give employment to 20,000 of its inhabitants. Cloths, velvets, satins, ribbons, stockings, soap, paper &c., are among the most productive of these manufactures.

Long. West $0^{\circ}2'3''$; lat. $49^{\circ}53'43''$. Thirty-one leagues North of Paris.

The little town of DOULENS, which is situated to the north of Amiens, was formerly a place of considerable importance, but it is now only remarkable for its double citadel, one of the finest in France.

In the neighbourhood of ALBERT, another small town in the same vicinity, is a subterraneous cavern, which is about one hundred feet long by two or three wide: it is pierced in a rich clayey soil, containing an oily substance. The two lateral sides of this cavern are ornamented by petrifications of trees, plants, and reeds, which stand like rows of pipes of different lengths, ramifications of various forms, round trunks of trees, some erect, some slanting, some lying down, from which issue considerable branches; a great number of white shells are mingled with these encrusted or petrified vegetable remains. A short distance from the cavern, the river Albert falls in a cascade of about forty feet, over a wall which has been built to intercept its course; it has a

very pretty effect, resembling, at the distance of fifty feet, a sheet of silver, rather than falling water, its descent being so perfectly smooth and uninterrupted.

PERONNE is a very ancient city; it was the residence of the first kings of the Merovingian race, and in its fortress Charles the Simple passed the latter and melancholy days of his life, A.D. 929.

HAM is a small town, and remarkable only for its fortress, which has been frequently used as a state prison: it is indeed at present (1836) appropriated to the same purpose, for it contains M. M. de Polignac and those of his colleagues who were not so fortunate as to make their escape from France in 1830.

The round tower is one hundred feet high, and one hundred feet in diameter likewise; its walls are thirty-six feet thick. The subterraneous halls of this fortress are surrounded by dungeons, in which a man cannot stand upright; and it is likewise in these caves that are found the trap-doors which open into those frightful abodes called *oubliettes*, from which no one ever issued alive.

C'étoit à l'instant même, à fureur infernale
Où, bercé par l'espoir de voir changer son sort,
Un prisonnier passait sur la trappe fatale,
Qu'il s'abymait soudain, et recevait la mort.

ABBEVILLE, ancient name *Abbas villa*, is a fine old town, exceedingly picturesque; many of the houses are built upon a gothic plan. It contains a college, a foundling hospital, a theatre, an Hotel Dieu, all conducted upon a most liberal plan: its cathedral is a fine gothic building, and its ramparts afford an agreeable promenade to the inhabitants. It has a celebrated manufactory for stuffs, which was established in the year 1667, and is conducted at this time by the descendants of the family of Hecquet, who were the original founders of this valuable commercial establishment. Its manufactures of fine cloths, ropes, soap, serges, and camlets, are likewise excellent and very productive.

SECTION X.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF NORMANDY,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF SEINE INFÉRIEURE, EURE,
CALVADOS, ORNE, LA MANCHE.

I.—DEPARTMENT OF SEINE INFÉRIEURE.

THIS is a maritime department (N.), formed of a part of *Haute Normandie* and *Perche*.

SOIL.—The soil is a mixture of chalk, sand, and clay. In the roudissiens of *Havre* and *Yvetot*, the earth is rich. Woods and valleys surround *Neufchâtel*; and around *Rouen*, the soil embraces all the advantages and disadvantages which are partially dispersed through the department.

FORESTS.—The most extensive forests are those of *Rauvray*, *Roumore*, *Bretonne*, *Bray*, *Eu*, *Eaury*, and *Iyons*.

COASTS.—The department possesses seven sea-ports, between *Tréport* to *Havre*, a distance of about thirty leagues. These coasts present, from the sea, a lofty line of chalk cliffs, varying in height from 450 to 750 feet; and this line is only interrupted by the mouth of some river, forming a small bay. Many fossil animals, and fossil shells, not common to the Western Ocean, are found in a bed of potter's earth, near the coast, at *Bléville* and *Havre*; indeed, these fossils belong to animals found in the Indian and Chinese Seas.

RIVERS.—It is watered by thirty-seven small rivers, eight of which are tributary to the ocean. The Seine alone is navigable throughout its course. It extends as far as *Rouen*, and vessels of 200 tons burthen reach thus far.

ROADS.—Several projects are on foot for establishing a communication between *Havre* and *Rouen*, and so to *Paris*, either by canals or rail-roads.

There are but few mineral substances in the *Seine Inférieure*, but mineral waters abound. Those of *Forges* are the most frequented: they consist of three springs, named, *la Royale*,—*la*

Reinette,—*et la Cardinale*, because they were recommended particularly to Louis XIII., to his queen, and to the Cardinal de Richelieu.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—These are very numerous.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Boulainvilliers*, *Bruxoy*, translator of the Greek plays; the two *Corneilles*, the historian *Daniel Fontenelle*, the famous *Scudery*, and his sister *Vertot*, the deputy *Bignon*, *Levavosseur*, *Bernardin-de-Saint-Pierre*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Rouen*. The Protestants have two consistorial churches, upon which depend four pastors; besides which, they have twenty-six temples, sixteen Bible Societies, four Missionary Societies, two Societies of Religious Tracts, and eight schools.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Rouen*, *Le Havre*, *Dieppe*, *Yvetot*, *Neufchâtel*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Rouen*; it is comprised in the fifteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ROUEN.—The capital is one of the largest, richest, most populous, and most commercial cities of France: it is situated on the right bank of the *Seine*, in a remarkably fine soil, and the walks in its vicinity are beautiful, particularly those of the *Champ-de-Mars*, the *Boulevards*, and the *Mont-Riboudet*. A number of islands in the *Seine* add much to the beauty of the view; and a bridge of boats, which rises or sinks with the tide, and opens in the middle to admit vessels, forms a very picturesque object in the landscape: there is likewise a stone bridge lately constructed, for the bridge of boats was of no use for the passage of carriages, except at high tides; and when severe frosts set in, it was dismounted.

The quay is very extensive, and it is generally lined by numbers of vessels of 150 to 200 tons burthen. The Exchange, the Custom-House, the *Hôtel-de-Ville*, are fine buildings; but the houses are generally built of wood, the streets are narrow and dirty, and produce, of course, no very pleasing impression upon the eye of a stranger.

The cathedral is deservedly celebrated for its beauty as well as its antiquity; it was built A.D. 623. The grand entrance is

flanked by two towers; the one was erected by St. Romain; the expence for constructing the other, which bears the whimsical name of *Tour-de-beurre*, was raised by the product arising from permissions granted to the more wealthy and epicurean part of the inhabitants of the city, to eat butter in Lent! It was in this tower that the celebrated bell, the largest in the world, was erected; it weighed 40,000 lbs.; it was converted into cannon in the year 1793. The founder of this bell died of joy on seeing its completion. It went by his name, that of George d'Amboise, and round it was the following distich in gothic characters:—

*Je suis nommé George d'Amboise,
Qui bien trente-six-mille poise.
Et celui qui bien me pesera,
Quarante mille trouvera.*

The churches of *Saint Maclou*, *Saint Vincent*, and of *Saint Omer*, are worthy of notice; and a visit to the botanic gardens, which contain 3,000 kinds of plants, to the museum, the library, the schools of painting, botany, and chemistry, the society of commerce, and the two learned societies, will afford ample amusement and instruction to the curious traveller. *Rouen* contains two theatres. The square in which the unfortunate Joan of Arc was burnt is now made use of as a calf market. There is, however, a statue erected to her memory in one of the squares. In the neighbourhood of this city are the mineral waters of *Saint Paul*. *Rouen* has also a mint for coining money. Its manufactures, and the articles of its exports, and of its commerce with the interior, are too extensive to be enumerated. Recently it has excelled in the manufacture of cotton cloth, for near *Rouen* are some of the finest cotton mills in France.

Long. west $1^{\circ} 14' 16''$ to $1^{\circ} 49' 26'' 28''$. Thirty leagues north-west of Paris.

HAVRE-DE-GRAVE. The ancient name of this sea-port was *Havre-de-Malheurs*, on account of the numerous shipwrecks which formerly took place in the mouth of the Seine: its present name is derived from a chapel, with a high tower, called *Notre-Dame-de-Grace*, probably from the circumstance of its affording a good beacon to vessels at sea. The view from this tower is

exceedingly beautiful and extensive. It was founded by Louis XII. and fortified by Francis I. Havre carries on a brisk trade with Carthage, Cadiz, Lisbon, Boston, and Baltimore. The light-house, *de la Neve*, stands at the entrance of the port, for the navigation of the mouth of the Seine is exceedingly difficult; but this shall be particularly explained under the article of, — *Rivers of France*. Its manufactures are earthenware, ropes, and cordages. One of its principal imports is tobacco.

The houses of *Havre* are well built of brick and stone; the streets are wide and straight; its chief inhabitants are, however, sailors, sail makers, and ship carpenters, yet it has produced many distinguished characters.

Long. west $2^{\circ} 13' 37''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 29' 14''$. Fifty leagues West by North of Paris.

HARFLEUR, an ancient town of this department, which is of Saxon origin, if tradition be true; since its name is said to be derived from two Saxon words,—*har-fleet*, (flot salé); because the Legerde, which passes through the city, and falls into the Seine, receives from that river the bitter salt taste of the seawater. In its neighbourhood a spot of ground is pointed out as having formerly been covered by the sea. Two immense basins then constituted its port, defended by twenty-four magnificent towers, by bastions and a ditch, the finest in France. This retreat of the sea happened about the fifteenth century, and the remains of the fortifications are still visible: they are now three miles inland. On quitting *Harfleur*, the traveller should visit the castle of *Orchu*, remarkable for the river which springs from the high beach on which it stands; these waters encrust whatever is thrown into them, with bright crystals. In the neighbourhood of Fescamp, the birth-place of William the Conqueror, stands the village of *Eletot*, where two young girls were a few years ago crushed to death by the falling in of the rocks on the beach: the following little poem is so beautifully descriptive of this melancholy event, that the author hopes he will be pardoned for its insertion, though certainly it is not necessary.

Le calme aplanissait les ondes;
 Ignorantes du coup fatal,
 Seules, au bord des mers profondes,
 Elles admiraient leur cristal.

Calme trompeur ! soudain l'orage,
Porté sur les ailes des vents,
Vient ébranler le noir rivage,
Et confondre les éléments.

Où fuir, innocentes victimes !
Le jour a fait place à la nuit ;
Sous leurs pieds s'ouvrent mille abîmes ;
Un roc se fend,—les engloutit.

On the other side of *Fescamp*, are the remains of a fortress, standing on a perpendicular rock, at the foot of which flows the sea: in the middle of the sixteenth century, it was the scene of the following daring exploit:—*Fescamp* having fallen into the hands of the League, a man, of the name of *Boisrosé*, resolved on rescuing this important place from its state of thralldom. He persuaded fifty of his acquaintance to join him in this enterprise, and in the silence of the night they approached the fortress by sea: *Boisrosé* had a friend in the garrison, who, at a given signal, lowered a cable, knotted at certain distances, which he had firmly fastened to the stanchion of one of the windows. One by one these fifty men mounted this dangerous ladder, *Boisrosé* being the last; when, however, the first man had reached about half way he made a halt, wearied by his ascent, and terrified at the perils of his situation, he declared he could advance no further. *Boisrosé*, in despair, used threats and intreaties in vain; and at length, finding that terror had completely palsied the man's powers, and fearing that the morning would surprise and betray them, he came to the dangerous resolution of passing over the heads of forty-nine of his companions, who were thus fearfully suspended; on reaching the terror-stricken object who impeded their progress, he threatened to plunge a dagger in his breast, and tumble him headlong into the sea, if he did not immediately proceed. Death thus presenting itself on every side to the poor trembling wretch, he was fain to proceed; and *Boisrosé*, and his daring companions, entered the citadel, put the garrison to the sword, and thus became masters of *Fescamp*.*

* One story always produces another, and the above narrative recalls the daring attempt of the slave Dames, at the siege of Aleppo by the Saracens, A D. 681. . Caled, and Abu Obeidah, who commanded the Saracen forces at this siege, suddenly and craftily withdrew their forces

DIEPPE is situated at the mouth of the *Bethune*; is a fine sea-port town, which carries on a considerable trade in herrings, mackerel, and whiting fisheries: toys, and models in ivory, and lace, constitute, also, a part of its export trade. It is said that the mariners of this port first crossed the tropic; they discovered Guinea in 1365; and the inhabitants, likewise, claim the honour of having discovered Canada. Few sea-ports of France suffered more during the long war, from 1793 to 1814, than Dieppe.

Long. West $1^{\circ} 15' 31''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 53' 34''$. Forty-four leagues North of Paris.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF EURE.

This is a maritime department (N.W.), composed of a portion of ancient *Normandie*.

SOIL.—This is a fertile department; the soil is composed, in many parts, of a fat, rich earth, producing excellent pasturage, and arable lands. The climate is too cold for the vine to attain perfection, but it is, nevertheless, cultivated in some parts. The orchards are very fine.

WOODS.—These are extensive and productive. Those of Boullots, Pont de Larche, Lyon, Montfort, and Evreux, are the most remarkable.

from the neighbourhood of Aleppo, the more effectually to lull its inhabitants into a false security, while Dames undertook, with the assistance of thirty men, to capture the city.

"At the darkest hour of the night he scaled the most accessible height, which he had diligently surveyed; a place where the stones were less entire, or the slope less perpendicular, or the guard less vigilant. Seven of the stoutest Saracens mounted on each other's shoulders, and the weight of this column of men was sustained on the broad and sinewy back of the gigantic slave. The foremost of this painful ascent could clasp and cling to the lowest part of the battlements: they silently stabbed and cast down the sentinels; and the thirty brethren, repeating the pious ejaculation, 'Oh, Apostle of God, help and deliver us!' were successively drawn up by the long folds of their turbans. With bold and cautious footsteps Dames explored the palace; from thence he silently retreated, and assaulted, with his companions, the guards, let down the drawbridge, and defended this narrow pass until Caled came to their assistance."

—Gibbon's *Roman History*.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—These consist chiefly of iron mines, which are very abundant. There are, also, in this department, quarries of a particularly fine white stone; and it possesses, likewise, some fine mineral waters.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The two Poussins were natives of *Eure*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, dependent upon the Bishop of *Evreux*.

This department is divided into five arrondissements, viz.: *Evreux*, *Louviers*, *Bernay*, *Andelays*, and *Pont Audemer*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Rouen*, and it is comprised in the fifteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

EVREUX is the capital. The towns of this department are not very important; indeed, the only object of interest in *Evreux* itself, is the botanic garden, and its situation. On the river *Iton*, in a beautiful valley, the castle, in its environs called *Chateau de Natarre*, is a magnificent building, of modern times, since its date is only 1686. It is erected on the site of a very ancient building, which belonged to the kings of *Navarre*. The walks in the botanic gardens of *Evreux*, which are very fine, are daily improving, afford a pleasant promenade to the inhabitants.

The manufactures of this town consist of cotton velvet, and ticking. It also carries on a trade in cloth and grain.

Long. West $1^{\circ} 11' 6''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 1' 30''$. Thirteen posts North-west of Paris.

CRACOUVILLE.—This village, one of the most ancient upon record in France, was founded by *Cracus*, King of the Vandals, who penetrated into France in the fourth century. He fixed his residence, for some time, in the environs of *Evreux*, and there he found the remains of a Druidical temple, the female inhabitants of which had the power, in their cabalistical dances, of rendering themselves invisible. Upon the appearance of the Vandal monarch, they vanished altogether, and their vast and solid habitation offered a very excellent domicile for his troops, whose headquarters he established on this spot. *Cracouville*, it is hardly necessary to observe, may be translated into town of *Cracus*. Would this have been noticed, but from the circumstance, that,

300 years later, a descendant of this king Cracus, founded the city of Cracoa, in Poland, which derives its name from the same monarch. The French call it *Cracovie*.

IVRY.—The spot celebrated by the battle gained by Henry IV. over the leaguers, is still held in veneration. A pyramid consecrates the remembrance of the victory. The ancient inscriptions have been defaced, but they are about to be replaced.

BRETEUIL.—This little town is famous for its iron-works and cannon foundry, as well as for the beautiful forest, which extends from Conché to Saint Martin, from north to south. The following legend, which is said to be a true one, is all that can be found to interest the reader at Breteuil.

In the first crusade of St. Louis to Palestine, he was accompanied by a knight, called *Gilbert de Lomblon*. After performing many chivalrous deeds, he was unfortunately made prisoner, and detained for some years in a state of captivity. His lady, in the mean time, had deplored his loss, and wept his death; but grief, says the legend, cannot last for ever; and time, that performs wonders, softened the lady's heart, and, after much consideration, she deigned to accept the hand of a neighbouring seigneur, of considerable rank, and possessing much wealth. The guests were assembled; the nobility, for many miles round Breteuil, graced the nuptial board; joy and festivity echoed through the castle of *Lapoulitère*, when, suddenly, the doors of the hall were opened: a stranger, clad in a pilgrim's habit, entered. His wan countenance; his attenuated form; his long and grisly beard; his pilgrim staff, six feet long, supported his steps; and an iron chain clanked as he proceeded, slowly and majestically, to the head of the table. The guests and the lady, the attendants and servitors, seemed all spell-bound; silence pervaded the walls, which so lately had resounded with the noise of mirth and jollity. The stranger stalked forward, his eyes fixed on the bride: at length he reached the head of the table, and there he stood, gazing upon her, while, as if his eyes had now the fascinating power of the rattlesnake, the lady fixedly gazed on the extraordinary being before her. After a few moments had elapsed, he allowed his staff to drop upon his breast, while, extending his right arm, he pointed, with the fore-finger of his left hand, to a ring on the finger of his right. The lady shrieked, rose from her seat, and, overcome by her emotion, would have fallen to the ground, had

not the pilgrim caught and supported her. The bridegroom rushed forward, but the pilgrim still supporting his lady with one arm, raised the other to heaven, and poured forth a thanksgiving, that he had not arrived too late to claim his wife. The recovery of the lady confirmed the assertions of the pilgrim, who briefly explained the circumstances of his arrival in France; of the intelligence he had received of his lady's intended nuptials; of the speed with which he had travelled, night and day, to prevent the completion of a ceremony, which would have consigned to misery more than one of the present company. The new-made bridegroom was compelled to submit to anterior claims, and the guests departed in amazement and haste.

LOUVIERS is a pretty little town, surrounded by a deep ditch, and situated upon the Eure, in the middle of a fertile plain. It is renowned for its manufacture of broad-cloths, which are fine and soft; and, it is said, that between three and four thousand pieces of cloth are annually sent to the capital from this small place. Another article, from which it derives much profit, is firewood, collected in the neighbouring forest of *Pont de l'Arche*. Immense quantities of this wood is floated down to Paris, from which the principal wood-market in the capital is called *l'Isle de Louvois*. In the neighbourhood of *Louvier*, apples are abundant. There are several points of view in this department celebrated for the beauty and extent of their prospect; among these, that called *Montagne des Amants*, stands conspicuous. It derives its name from the following tragical event:—

An old baron had a daughter, of exquisite beauty, whom he had promised in marriage to a certain knight, but the lady preferred an esquire, of low degree. The father discovered the lovers in a tête-à-tête, in the neighbourhood. His indignation and rage were, at first, so great, that he was on the point of sacrificing them on the spot.

Mais de sa fille il voit les larmes; •

La nature parle à son tour. •

“Viens, dit il, mériter ses charmes.

En lui donnant preuve d'amour.

Sans nul repos sur la montagne •

Porte l'objet de tes souhaits:

À ce prix elle est ta compagne,

Où, tu la perdras pour jamais.”

The lover immediately raised the lady in his arms, and took the road to the mountain.

C'est en vain, hélas ! qu'il espère :
 Déjà ses pas sont chancelants.
 Genièvre, en accusant son père,
 Fixe sur lui des yeux charmants.

“ Ah ! dit Baudouin, ce regard tendre
 M'a fait oublier tous mes maux,
 Et dans mes sens a su répandre
 Un feu plus doux que le repos.”

Que le sommet est haut encore !
 Et Baudouin est faible et mourant.
 Les pleurs de celle qu'il adore
 Baignent son front pâle et brûlant :

“ Le premier baiser de ta bouche
 Peut seul éloigner mon trépas ”—
 Il le reçoit—au but il touche,
 Et tombe expirant dans ses bras.

The lady died of grief, and the old baron, in despair, erected an hermitage on the mountain, where he ended his days.

This department is rich in forests and iron-mines. Near Quillebeuf there is a yew-tree, which measures twenty-one feet in circumference. It supports the choir of the church, that stands at the back of it, and which would, in fact, soon fall into the ravine below, if it was not for this friendly tree. It was planted on the grave of a person of distinction, whose tomb is still pointed out. On the road to *Harfleur*, near a mile, there is a willow, the trunk of which measures nine feet in diameter, and rises thirty-one feet before any branches spring from it. Its whole height, from the ground, is fifty-six feet.

3. - DEPARTMENT OF CALVADOS.

This is a maritime department (N.E.) formed of a part of *Haute and Basse Normandie*.

SOIL.—The soil of the plains is composed of an argillaceous, calcareous earth. In the neighbourhood of *Vire* sand predominates. The vegetable soil reposes upon calcareous stone; schistus, or granite. Calvados somewhat resembles La Vendée,

for it has its *bocages*; and its *sandes*, or heaths; and some marshy lands, which might be easily drained.

MOUNTAINS.—The most elevated hills of the department form a part of the granitic chain, which separate the basin of the Loire from that of the Seine. The highest of these is called Mont Pinçon; it rises 1,398 feet above the plain. In the arrondissement of *Falaise*, the rock of *Saint Quentin* forms a long chain, which appears formerly to have enclosed a valley, in which was a lake. This rock is at present, however, rent asunder, and a stream flows, by which the waters of the lake have escaped.

COASTS, ROCKS, AND HARBOURS.—Between *Honfleur* and *Dieppe*, the cliffs rise to the height of 150 to 700 feet. These cliffs are composed, principally, of a strong clayey soil, intermingled with beds of pyrites, calcareous and silicious stones. The sea has washed away the lower parts, leaving their summits hanging, in many places, over the deep. From *Dieppe* to *Seuille*, the coasts are bordered by sandy downs. Besides the rocks of Calvados, which give their name to the department, and which are only seen at low water, extending five leagues, there are many others, dangerous to the inexperienced navigator. There are nine ports or harbours; those of Honfleur, Caen, and Courseulles, are the principal.

RIVERS.—The *Arne*, *Touque*, *Vire*, and *Seulle*, are the chief rivers in this department. The *Aure Supérieure* and the *Dromme*, two small streams, are lost in the *Fosses du Souci*; and another narrow but deep stream disappears in a basin, six feet wide only, and thirty long. At Ainsy there is a stream, or rather, perhaps, it should be called the bed of a streamlet, since the capricious nymph that presides over it, sometimes disappears for years together; then suddenly she raises her reed-crowned head, and from her urn pours forth the liquid waters, which rapidly increase, until the neighbouring valley is overflowed, penetrating the houses, stables, &c.; rising sometimes so high, and so instantaneously, as to drown the cattle, while their owners, giving the word of alarm, *Vite! vite!* flee from its overwhelming effects, watching in terror its destructive advances. The period of its height is uncertain; but, it should seem, that after a day or two it begins to subside. It then flows through its small bed for a few days; then as suddenly disappears entirely. There is also a pond,

called *Noire Marre*, at *Ernès*, which fills and overflows at irregular periods, flooding the country adjacent, and then is suddenly absorbed.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—Some iron-mines, of an inferior quality, are found in *Calvados*; and there are quarries of granite, lime-stone, marble of different colours, whetstone, bog earth, &c.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—There is a Royal Academy of Sciences, of Arts and Belles Lettres, of Agriculture, Commerce, Medicine, &c. &c. Caen, also, possesses a cabinet of natural history, physic, anatomy, and chemistry. M. Caumont, founder of the *Antiquaires de Normandie*, has recently received permission to place, at his own expense, several monuments, each bearing a brass tablet, with an inscription, describing the event they are designed to commemorate. The first stone has been placed at *Formigny*, where the battle was fought, in 1450, which delivered Normandy from the yoke of England.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Boisrobort*, who assisted *Richelieu* in his writings; the brothers *Boivin*; *Alain Chautier*, the orator and poet, a very remarkably ugly man, who, when asleep, was honoured with a kiss by Margaret of Scotland, who replied, to the smile of her courtiers, "I kiss the mouth which every day pronounces such beautiful and exquisite language;" *Dubois*; *Du Hamel*; *Dumesnil*; *Laplace*, the Greek scholar; *Tanneguy*; *Lefebvre*, father of *Madame Dacier*; *Malherbe*, the poet; General *Morin*; *Père Porée*, a Jesuit, who was the preceptor of *Voltaire*; the geometrician *Varignon*; *William the Conqueror*; &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Bayeux*. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Caen*, to which eight pastors are attached.

This department is divided into six arrondissements, viz.: *Caen*, *Bayeux*, *Pont l'Évêque*, *Licieux*, *Kalaise*, and *Honfleur*. Its judicial administration depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Caen*, and it is comprised in the fourteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CAEN is the principal town of this department. It is situated on the *Orne* and the *Odon*, in a beautiful and extensive valley. Although Caen itself can hardly be termed ancient, yet the

ground on which it stands appears to have been the site of a Roman city, since, in the year 1783, several medals, bearing the effigy of the Antonine, were found at the depth of fourteen feet; and, what is more remarkable, many chestnut-trees, converted, the greater part of them, into turfs. Caen, however, possesses no records previous to the tenth century, as the following distich seems to prove, which bears date 1060.

• • Encor est Caen sans chatel
N'y avait fait mur ni quesnel.

Its castle was built by William the Conqueror. Its walls, though of immense thickness, could not resist the violent and determined attacks of the "heroes" of 1793, when this ancient building was completely demolished.

The form of *Caen* is that of a horse-shoe. It is surrounded by walls, flanked by towers, with platforms. The houses are high, and built of stone, and the principal street is long, and presents an animated scene. Its chief public buildings are, the Hôtel de Ville, the Palace of Justice, a college, (formerly an university,) and its museum. The octagonal pyramid of Saint Pierre is very curious: it is 228 feet high, and pierced on all sides by openings, in the form of stars. Although this building is between six and seven hundred years old, it appears to have escaped the ravages of time, as well as those of man. There are four fine squares in the city; that of Louis XIV. is considered the most beautiful in all Normandy. It contains two enclosures; the one formed by stone seats, and the other by rows of lime-trees. There are, also, many fine walks in its vicinity; and the bridges over the Orne and Odon facilitate the communication from one part of the city to the other. The tomb of Queen Matilda, wife of the Conqueror, is pointed out in one of its churches. Its botanic gardens contain three thousand plants, and its public library, thirty-seven thousand volumes.

Caen carries on a trade in fine cloths, thread lace, saddles, leather, oysters, and horses. The fair, which is held on the Sunday after Low-Sunday, is one of the gayest and most important in France. The women of this place are celebrated for the clearness of their complexion, and the beauty of their form. Near the little village of *Allemagne*, situated about a mile and a half to the south of *Caen*, there are fine quarries of white stone

(*pierres blanches*), which are very easily cut. A short time ago, a fossil crocodile was found in these quarries.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 41'$; lat. $49^{\circ} 11'$. Fifty-three leagues North-west of Paris.

BAYEUX is situated on the Aure, about two leagues from the sea. It is a very ancient town, said to have been founded by Julius Cæsar; but there are some authors, who, not content with assigning to it this portion of antiquity, farther affirm, that it owes its origin to *Belus II.*, King of Babylon! It is not surprising that there should be no remains of any of its very ancient buildings, since few towns have suffered more from the ravages of war.

In 1753, several urns were found, containing ashes and human bones. Its cathedral is a gothic building, dedicated to the Virgin. The portal and three belfries, which belong to it, are objects of curiosity. It is in this cathedral that the celebrated tapestry, denominated *of Bayeux*, is kept. Its length is one hundred and thirty-two feet; its breadth, seven and a half. "I had," says Dr. Ducarel, "the satisfaction of seeing that famous piece of furniture, which, with great exactness, though in *barbarous needle-work*, represents the history of Harold, King of England; and of William, Duke of Normandy; from the embassy of the former to Duke William, at the command of Edward the Confessor, to his overthrow and death, at the battle fought near Hastings. The ground of this piece of work is a white linen cloth, or canvas. The figure of men, horses, &c., are in their proper colours, worked in the manner of the samplers, in worsted, and of a style not unlike what we see upon the china and Japan ware; those of the men, particularly, being without the least symmetry or proportion. There is a small border, which runs at the top and the bottom of the tapestry; with several figures of men, beasts, flowers, and even fables, which have nothing to do with the history, but are mere ornaments. At the end of every particular scene, there is a tree, by way of distinction; and over several of the principal figures, there are inscriptions, but many of them obliterated. It is annually hung up on St. John's day, and goes round the nave of the church, where it continues eight days; and at all other times it is carefully kept locked up in a strong wainscot press, in a chapel on the south side of the cathedral, dedicated to Thomas à Becket. By tradition it is called, *Duke William's*

toilet, and is said to be the work of Matilda, his queen, and the ladies of her court, after he had obtained the crown of England.* Mr. Strutt, in his "Complete View of the Dresses and Habits of the People of England," affirms, that it is the work of half a century later than the time of the Conqueror.

There was formerly a relic, called *la chasuble de Saint Regnobert*, preserved in a small ivory coffer, that was kept in the sacristy. Upon this casket there was a plate of silver, bearing an Arabian inscription, from which it was supposed that it was taken from the Saracens, by Charles Martel, at the battle of *Tours*, but it is no longer in existence.

Bayeux carries on a brisk trade in thread lace, butter, cotton velvet, iron ware, hemp, oxen and sheep, and many bulbous flower-roots, jonquils in particular.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 2' 11''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 16' 54''$. Sixty leagues West by North of Paris.

VIRE is a considerable town, in the department of *Calvados*, and is renowned for its cloth trade, and its numerous paper manufactories, which are in much estimation. It is the land of the Troubadours of the north; for so early as the fifteenth century, the ballads, of one poet in particular, *Olivier Basselier*, acquired such renown, that, for leagues round, ~~any~~ lively and piquant song received the name of *Val de Vire*, which, in the plural, *Vaux*, gave rise to the modern word, *Vaudeville*.

A fine aqueduct, which conveys water to every part of the city, and supplies the numerous fountains, which contribute not a little to the beauty of the city, as well as comfort to the inhabitants.

Vire has sustained many sieges, by the French, the English, and the Huguenots, whom tradition and history report to have committed a thousand cruelties in this town; so much so, that the word Huguenot was sufficient to inspire the greatest terror. In 1668, the inhabitants being threatened with an invasion from the Prince of Orange, the Huguenots made some little movement in its vicinity, the *Virois* took the alarm, and the following trifling misunderstanding produced the most fatal consequences. One Sunday, after vespers, a *Lyonnese* (a yale) having had a

* Anglo-Norman Antiquities, by Dr. Ducarel, p. 79, and Appendix, p. 2.

slight quarrel with one of the townfolk, a woman, recognizing him as a stranger, exclaimed, "It is a Huguenot." A man immediately threw a stone at him; the confusion became general; persons of every rank, sex, and age, armed themselves; the streets were barricaded, the tocsin sounded, the alarm spread on all sides, many lives were lost, and the Duke of Guise, who was at *Alençon*, fled with precipitation to *Paris*. It may well be said, that "the mother of mischief is no bigger than a midge's egg."

The host, which was found in the ruins of the church of Notre Dame, after its destruction by the Huguenots, has been kept in the tabernacle, with the greatest care, for the last two hundred years; and once a year it is exhibited to the people, at the feast of Easter.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 45' 50''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 50' 16''$.

FALAIN is the birth-place of William the Conqueror. It has no other fact to immortalize it. About two leagues from the city is a mountain, which, split asunder, forms a romantic gorge, called the *Devil's Reach*. On one of its summits stood a yew-tree, of prodigious size, which had been an object of admiration for centuries to the neighbouring inhabitants, until the gigantic spirit of destruction stalked forth, during the French revolution, wagging war not only against every human relic of former times, but even against the venerable remains of beautiful nature. In 1793, this magnificent tree, which had stood the rage of conflicting elements for some hundreds of years, and raised its head in defiance of the storm, fell beneath the axe of the revolutionary killers of all things formerly revered.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 35'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 54'$.

—DEPARTMENT OF ORNE.

This is an inland department (N.W.), comprising a portion of the old provinces of *Normandie* and *Perche*.

SOIL.—The aspect of the country is not mountainous, but it is intersected by many lofty heights, which are, in some parts, covered with wood; in others, they afford rich pasture land, and a small proportion is devoted to agriculture. The soil is, in some places, stony, and produces many valuable kinds of pebbles.

MOUNTAINS.—These are composed of primitive rock.

FORESTS.—A large proportion of this department is covered with woods and forests, to an extent of 12,000 acres of land. The orchards of *Normandie* are famous for their apples.

RIVERS.—The *Orne*, *Mayenne*, *Sarthe*, *Eure*, *Dive*, *Louque*, *Charenton*, and the *Ilon*, water this fertile department.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—These consist chiefly of iron mines, which are productive, the average annual product being about 5,000 tons of cast iron, and about 3,000 of wrought iron. The quarries of granite are profitably worked, and the rock crystal found in them is highly appreciated. There are some mineral springs, but it is in the south that these chiefly abound. Saltpetre is found in large quantities in the neighbourhood of *Argentan*. Potter's clay and brick earth are abundant, and manganese near *Sées*.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are mineral waters at Fosges and Saint Barthelmi.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Catinat*, *Mergeray*, *Fontenelle*, and *Villedieu*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, dependent upon the Bishop of Sées.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, *Alençon*, *Domfront*, *Argentan*, and *Mortagne*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Caen*, and it is comprised in the fourteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ALENÇON is agreeably situated in the middle of a vast plain, fertile in every description of grain and fruits, at an equal distance between the forests of *Ecouves* and *Petseigns*, being protected from the western winds by a portion of that land denominated antediluvian, and called *butte de Chaumon*, the highest land in Normandy. Alençon is well built, of a moderate extent, and tolerably well peopled. The rivers *Sarthe* and *La Briante*, at their junction, form an island of the convent of *St. Clair*. The castle is in a state of ruin, but its park still presents many agreeable walks. The church of *St. Leonard* is remarkable for its antiquity, as well as the *Hôtel Dieu*, which was erected by the inhabitants. Near the village of *La Barre* there

is found very fine sand, intermingled with star stones and shells, which are only found in the seas of the South. The pavement of the streets of *Alençon* is composed of a kind of ulabaster. Its manufactures consist of jewellery, cloth, buckram, and lace, particularly that kind called *point d'Alençon*,—this lace is of such extreme beauty, that a pair of ruffles has been known to cost 5,600 francs.

Until the reign of Louis XIV., France was indebted to Venice, Genoa, Flanders, and England, for this luxurious article of dress. Colbert, to whom France is so greatly indebted for the introduction of many of her manufactures, prevailed on a workman of the name of *Gilbert*, and originally of *Alençon*, who had settled in Italy, and excelled in this kind of work, to return to her native town, advancing to her the sum of 50,000 crowns, in order to enable her to set up a frame. *Madame Gilbert*, encouraged by this liberality, assembled round her a number of women and girls, taught them to work the *point de Venise*, and succeeded in producing some very fine specimens: with these she hastened to Paris, and *Colbert*, delighted with her success, persuaded the king to announce to his court, that he had established a manufacture of lace point, which rivalled that of Venice.

The patterns were accordingly displayed on crimson velvet; and Louis was so much pleased with them, that he sent a handsome present to *Madame Gilbert*; besides which, his majesty had no sooner left the apartment, than the table was cleared by the ladies, and the enriched manufacturess returned in triumph to *Alençon*, where she soon realised a large fortune, enriching her country at the same time. The diamonds of *Alençon*, a species of crystal found in the quarries of *la Hertue* and *Pont Perie*, were formerly plentiful and much celebrated, but are now of little value; they resembled, most likely, the Bristol stone: its iron mines, in the vicinity, are a more profitable concern, and the Norman horses have long been celebrated for their spirit and fleetness.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 16'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 25' 25''$. Forty-five leagues North by West of Paris.

DOMFRONT is built upon a steep rock, split asunder towards the west, between which flows a little river, called the *Vareanne*. The environs of this place are almost equally intersected by forests, mountains, brush wood, and small streams, which in the winter become rivers. Some pear and apple trees are to be seen:

but the vine, which was said to flourish here formerly, is no longer visible: red partridges abound in this neighbourhood.

ARGENTAN is seated on high ground, not far from the banks of the Orne: its streets are wide, and the houses regularly built: its castle, flanked by ten towers, is gothic, and of great antiquity. The numerous remains of Roman monuments likewise attest, that *Argentan* has, for centuries, been entitled to the notice of travellers. In 1521, Margaret of Lorraine died here; her tomb is still preserved, and looked upon with veneration, for she is reported to have performed many miracles, both before and after her death. In the neighbourhood of this town is the small village of *Rye*, the native place of the historian *Mezerai*.

The forests of the department of the Orne are numerous and beautiful; they occupy, indeed, 120,000 acres of land.

5.—DEPARTMENT OF LA MANCHE.

This department is maritime (N.W.), composed, in part, of *Basse-Normandie*.

SOIL.—The soil is covered partly with furze and brambles, and partly arable; it rests upon beds of schistus and calcareous substance, and this on granite. Many marshes occupy a large portion of the department.

COASTS, PORTS, &c.—The coasts are generally bordered by lofty cliffs, at the foot of which are extensive sands. Seven sea-ports are scattered along this long and sinuous coast, and several forts defend it against foreign invasion, while many pharos, or lighthouses, point out the dangers arising from the stormy, rocky coasts, and the fury of the winds and waves.

MINES.—Silver, copper, iron, lead, and mercury, are said to be found in this department, but those of iron and lead are alone worked. Quarries of marble, granite, red and grey; slates, free stones, potter's clay, &c., are also among the treasures of *La Manche*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—Societies of Agriculture, Commerce, Philharmony, &c., Jardin des Plantes, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—General *Abeville*, *Abbé de Beauvais*, *Blondel*, *Dacier*, *Dressart*, author of the collection of trials called *Causes Célèbres*; Cardinal *Perron*, *Lebrun*, third Consul of the

Republic; *Saint Evremond*, *Admiral Tourville*, &c.; *Le Brun*, *Tourville*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic; it forms part of the diocese of *Contances*. At *Chefresne*, and at *Cherbourg*, the Protestants have churches for the service of their religion.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Saint Lô*, *Contances*, *Arranches*, *Mortain*, *Valognes*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Caen*: it is comprised in the fourteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

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ST. LO is the chief town in this department: it is situated on the Vise, and its principal modern attraction is the theatre, which is a fine building. The ruins of its ancient fortifications are cut out of a very steep rock, and the remains of its old bridge stamp it with some portion of antiquity. It possesses a few manufactures in cloths, stuffs, galloons, thread, and serges. The former inhabitants of this part of Normandy were exceedingly renowned for their superstitious credulity in signs and omens, though not more so than the present inhabitants of the south of England; and what is curious, the signs and omens are in many respects the same. A circle round the moon foretold sickness; lights, or *fires*, in the air, wars. If the wind were north on Palm Sunday, apples would be scarce; if it rained on the fête of St. Médore, it would rain during forty successive days; thirteen persons at table was considered so ominous of death, as to interdict that precise number of guests; the howling of a dog presaged misfortune; if a chattering magpie were heard near the house of a sick person, it foretold death; and ghosts and spectres were seen daily by some one or other. They held many curious festivals; their marriages were celebrated with peculiar ceremonies, and much rustic festivity. Conjugal infidelity was a crime of so black a die, and was visited with such severe punishment when it did occur, that it was scarcely to be heard of in this part of the world. One fête peculiar to Normandy still remains; it is called, *la fête des paroisses*. After dinner, at the sound of the parish bell, every family quits its habitation, and marches slowly to the place of assembling; they then repair to the church and hear prayers; after which they congre-

gate in the church-yard, and there, upon the graves of their ancestors, they embrace and congratulate each other upon their prosperous circumstances, or condole with each other upon their misfortunes; thus sighs and smiles, tears and laughter, are alternately mingled at these extraordinary meetings; meetings which, at their commencement, are deeply interesting, but which seldom terminate in the spirit in which they are commenced. After the first effervescence of feeling has subsided, different groupes are formed, and much gossip ensues. At length, they form themselves into a large circle, and the festivity commences. Many savoury dishes are produced, among which eels form a favourite mess; and cyder, strong and delicious, exhilarate their spirits. But this happy day must close as well as all others, and dearest friends must part. Then comes adieus and tears, drinking and laughter,—one more cup,—another succeeds; the wives are impatient, the men tipsy, the children tired; some mount their horses, and again descend; an unfortunate recollection occurs, old grievances are brought back for discussion, blows succeed to compliments; the cups are broken, the seats are transformed into weapons of offence and defence; the women cry, the children scream, the men fight, and the dogs bark. The reign of discord must, however, have its termination; explanations are admitted, and having re-arranged their disordered tassets, they separate good friends; and, by the light of the stars, regain, as best they may, their humble dwellings. The manner of hiring domestics at the fairs of Saint-Clair and la Madaleine again recalls the statute fairs of England, and is an interesting proof of the peopling of this part of France by the ancient Britons.

The farmers' wives, accompanied by their husbands, all arrayed in their best attire, form a large cortège, and repair to an extensive field in the neighbourhood of the towns, Saint Lo, Chaumont, and Danvoël. There are assembled a number of itinerant musicians and gypsies, eager to confer all manner of good fortune upon those who can best afford to pay for it. A number of cyder casks are placed along one side of the field under the shade of a hedge-row of willows and hazels; here the serving men arrange themselves, and as they quaff the delicious and exhilarating beverage, they appear as happy, as gay, and unconcerned, as if they were masters of the universe. Ah! how

much happier are they than if the golden round of royalty encircled their brows. Theirs are days of hope unembittered by fear. Here the farming man *scientifically* flourishes his flail, the coachman cracks his whip, the shepherd boy is there with his crook, his dog, and his flute; in short, they all bear some insignia of their office and pretensions. In another part of the field, are young girls with nosegays in their hands,—these have never yet been to service; *there*, stands a group of middle-aged matrons, who boast of their skill in rearing children, and are candidates for the situations of nurses, (*bonnes*); a little further on is a more elegant assemblage, composed of young women skilled in the art of adorning the persons of the more wealthy part of their fair countrywomen, and anxious to obtain the important post of *seigne-de-chambre*; in short, persons of every age and occupation, men and women, boys and girls, all equally zealous and perfect in their several callings, may be here hired at wages of every denomination.

Saint Lo has been several times besieged, and has suffered many reverses of fortune. Edward III. of England; in his descent upon Normandy, was the first to disturb a long succession of prosperity, which, until very lately, was never restored. In 1346 Edward burnt the city of Carentan, and abandoned it to pillage, to revenge the murder of three Norman lords whom Philippe-le-Bel had beheaded, and caused their heads to be placed on the gates of the town, because they had embraced the cause of the English monarch. Edward then proceeded to St. Lo, which he gave up to pillage likewise, and afterwards burnt. From this period, until the year 1562, the city, which had risen from its ashes, was constantly taken and retaken: the last siege it sustained was by the Calvinists, who captured and pillaged it: the Bishop of Coutances was made prisoner, and led through the city seated upon an ass, with his head turned towards its tail, which he held in his hand, and having upon his head a paper mitre.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 28'$; lat. North $49^{\circ} 7'$. Sixty-eight leagues West from Paris.

VALOGNES.—This little town derives its name from its situation: it is seated in a valley; and, from its occupying the site of a Roman city called Longues, the two words joined together

compose its present name. Some remains of Longues are still to be seen. The castle of Valognes, as it now stands, displays traces of its antiquity, the walls being in many parts composed of the old Roman structure. In 1695 several excavations were made in its neighbourhood, and baths were discovered; and so far in perfection, as to distinguish easily the apartments designed for the cold bath, the warm bath, and the sweating bath. There was likewise discovered an amphitheatre, 204 feet in diameter; the orchestra was visible, but the scene was so in ruins, as to defy all traces of its form or arrangement.

Valognes has a manufactory for cloths, and a tannery.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 53'$; lat. $49^{\circ} 22'$.

AVRANCHES is a small town founded by the Romans, called by them *Arborica*, on account of the forests in its neighbourhood. The white sandy beach is ten leagues in extent, which is covered every day by the sea. In 1605 this awful element made such dreadful inroads, that it inundated the country for several miles, carrying away every thing that opposed its fury. The cathedral, which was a very superb building, founded 1090, completed in 1131, and repaired and beautified just before the revolution, was very extensive and imposing, and appeared as if it would defy the encroachments of time and the ravages of man; but in 1792 its sacred walls were entered by the spoiler, the small narrow house of the dead, the leaden coffin, was eagerly dragged from its silent resting place, for the purpose of converting the sullen metal into bullets; but the columns which supported the choir being disturbed at their foundation, sunk, and the centre of gravity of the ponderous roof being thus disturbed, it fell with a tremendous crash, burying in its ruins the sacrilegious profaners and bold invaders of the sacred edifice.

It was in this cathedral that Henry II. of England, and the legates of Pope Alexander III., held their conference respecting the murder of Thomas à Becket. The stone is still shewn before the church upon which the penitent monarch knelt to receive absolution, after taking an oath that he had neither ordered nor wished for the death of the archbishop, though he admitted, that he was innocently accessory to it, by his imprudent expression.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 41' 51''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 41' 21''$. Seventy-four leagues West of Paris.

*Mont St. Michel.*

About three leagues from Avranches, stands the Mont Saint Michel, on the beach at some distance from the shore. This beach slopes here so gradually, as to leave a vast extent of flat sands at low water; at which time, St. Michel has the appearance of an immense rock, rising suddenly from a level plain, to the great height of 534 feet; while, at other times, it is a rocky island surrounded by the waters of the ocean, round which float boats and vessels of various description. The sea generally advances slowly on the flow of the tide, depositing in various parts a rich clayey soil, to which is given the name of *lisses*; the plain of sands is likewise called *Salines de l'Avranchin*, salt marshes of Avranchin, because, in the fine season, the inhabitants, by removing lightly the reeds with a rake, and drawing it into heaps, obtain a good supply of salt, which is deposited by the sea. The mountain is seldom approached by curious travellers except at low water, and then it is very necessary to have a guide, as the clayey parts are so soft, that men and horses, and even carriages, sometimes sink to a considerable depth, if they unfortunately cross one of these dangerous places. A carriage is the safest conveyance.

• Mont St. Michel is a quarter of a league in circumference: before Christianity had spread its benign influence over France, this mountain was consecrated to Belenus, one of the four great deities which the Gauls adored; it was then called *Mountain*

of Belenus: it was inhabited by nine druidesses, the eldest of whom gave the oracular responses, and the others sold, at a high price, arrows, which had the power of calming the waves of the sea, and appeasing the storm. Their palace was called *Mont-Jou*, meaning, in the Celtic language, *elevated mountain*; afterwards *Mont-Tumba*, or *mountain of the tomb*, from its form; but in the year 708 it was consecrated by St. Aubert, Bishop of Avranches, and dedicated to Saint Michel. In the year 1004, the foundation of the church, which is now standing, was laid; he also founded a monastery there. The ascent to the abbey was by a stair, hewn in the rock, which led likewise to the castle. A subterraneous chapel contained all the precious treasures of the church, which were immense. The cloisters were constructed of the finest marble, and enclosed with windows of wonderful beauty. The abbey contained a *library* of many books and precious manuscripts. The vaulted hall was the largest apartment in France. By a winding staircase, the pilgrims ascended from the great tower of the church, to the clock, where they engraved their name. A pilgrimage to this rock was of equal celebrity as one to St. Jago di Compostella in Spain, or even to Jerusalem. Louis VII., Philippe Auguste, St. Louis, and Francis I., all visited these rocks in the character of pilgrims. At the foot of the rock is a small town, which formerly carried on a great trade in images, medals, &c., which the inhabitants sold to the pilgrims. Its reputation in civil history is no less renowned, and far more interesting. St. Michel was very early fortified in a regular way; towers and bastions rose on every side, and vast sums were expended in erecting battlements, and every means of defence: the wars, however, between the English and the Dukes of Brittany destroyed these buildings almost as soon as they were erected, but it nevertheless was never captured; even when every other part of Normandy submitted to the English, this rock remained independent; and, in the year 1413, on the 6th of June, it was defended by a man called d'Etouville, and 119 knights, against 20,000 English, well armed, and provided with many warlike engines. They erected considerable batteries against the walls, and had even made a breach in them, when they were repulsed so vigorously by the knights, that they retreated, leaving 2,000 of their dead upon the

sands. There are, it is said, two warlike engines, charged with granite balls, now at the entrance of the gate, which were left behind at this memorable siege, and which are preserved as monuments of the defeat of the English.

CHERBOURG is situated at the northern extremity of the peninsula Cotentin, at the mouths of the little rivers Divette and Frottebec, at the bottom of a bay in the form of a crescent. The sea of this bay, which is the finest in France, is at low water from twenty-five to thirty feet deep, and the bottom is good; the winds, however, blowing mostly from the west, fill the ports of la Manche with sand, shingles, and other debris: to remedy this evil, at Cherbourg, a sort of mole has been erected at the entrance, consisting of eighteen cones, the intervals between which are filled up by stone embankments; this dyke is raised several feet above low water mark, though it is covered by the sea at full tides, but not to a sufficient depth to allow ships of the line to pass over it. Cherbourg is the only port in the channel capable of receiving vessels of war of the first class, of which it will contain 500. It is well defended by the fort de Querquville on the west, and on the east by the isle Pelée.

It is in the neighbourhood of Cherbourg they cast much of that glass which is polished and converted into plates and looking glasses at Paris: it has also a manufacture of cloth, and furnishes much butter and beef to the capital. This department is intersected by many streams: it is mountainous, and possesses large forests.

St. Lo, Valognes, and Cherbourg, have lately acquired much interest. At St. Lo, Charles the Tenth received a visit from three of his nobles, who destroyed all his hopes of a rising in his favour; at Valognes he took leave of his faithful guards; and at Cherbourg he embarked for England, leaving his throne and his kingdom to Louis Philippe.

SECTION XI.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF BRÉTAGNE,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF FINISTERRE, CÔTES DU NORD,
MORBIHAN, ILLE ET VILAINE, LOIRE INFÉRIEURE.

—DEPARTMENT OF FINISTERRE.

THIS is a maritime department. (N.W.) It consists of a part of *Basse-Bretagne*.

SOIL.—The soil is very varied; sandy along the coast, poor and gravelly in the mountains.

MOUNTAINS.—The chain of hills which intersect this department scarcely deserve the name of mountains, though their base is granitic: that called the mountain *d'Arrée* is the principal.

COAST, PORTS, AND ISLANDS.—The coast of this department is partly washed by the channel, and partly by the ocean; it extends 150 leagues; it is in general elevated, formed of barren rocks. Eleven sea-ports, the principal of which are, viz.:—*Brest*, *Morlaix*, *Roscoff*, *Landerneau*, *Quimper*, *Pempoule*, *Corréjou*, *Conquet*, and *Douarnenez*. The islands are numerous: those of *Ouessant*, *Bas*, *Sein*, &c. &c.

FORESTS.—These occupy but a small portion of the territory. They are principally situated in the *arrondissement* of *Châteaulin*.

RIVERS.—The navigable rivers are, the *Aulne*, the *Elven*, and the *Odet*. The canal of *Nantes* to *Brest* passes from *Châteaulin* to *Carhaix*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—General *Moreau*, *Albert le Grand*, the historians and Jesuits *Bougeant* and *Hardouin*, the famous critic *Fréron*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Quimper*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Quimper*, *Morlaix*, *Manche*, *Châteaulin*, *Quimperlé*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Rennes*. It is comprised in the thirteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS

QUIMPER, or *Quimper Corentin*, is a large town, though not very beautiful in its appearance. It is very ancient, being men-

tioned by Cæsar, under the name of *Curiosolitum*. Its surname of *Corentin*, is derived from its first bishop, who was thus called. It was at this place that the circumstance occurred of *the stick filled with gold*, so well related by Cervantes, and so amusingly decided before the tribunal of Sancho Panza. In the year 1345, this city was burnt to the ground by *Charles de Blois*.

Fish are here very abundant, particularly sardines, or pilchards.

BREST, which is the ancient *Brivantes*, is situated upon the side of a mountain, on the Atlantic Ocean. Its two principal streets, the *rue Royale*, and the *rue Siam*, begin and finish on the same level; but so uneven is the ground, that in passing midway from the one to the other, it is necessary to ascend by a stair of one hundred steps. Indeed the communication between most of the streets is by steep and dangerous steps. The Museum of Natural History is rich in curiosities and the productions of most parts of the world. The *Cimetière*, or the burying-ground, is laid out in long walks, planted on each side by fine trees, interspersed with grass-plots, and breathing perfumes from the numerous flowers which, on every side, meet the gazer's eye, and scatter their odours upon the air. On descending from this beautiful spot, by a long descent, the building appropriated to the galley-slaves presents itself. It is large, and commodiously arranged for its unfortunate and guilty inmates.

This port is considered inferior to that of *Toulon*, being long and narrow, and the quays are too much crowded by workshops and magazines; but this is unavoidable, for the rock itself is close upon the back of these buildings, and prevents their being otherwise placed. Brest is an immense dépôt for naval stores of every description; and the port contains many vessels bearing names interesting to Frenchmen: among these, *l'Océan*, though disarmed and dismasted, is pointed out with pride by the sailors, who generally conclude the recitation of the numerous engagements in which it has taken a part, by relating the following curious anecdote. The servant of an officer on board having had the misfortune to drop some money, belonging to his master, into the actual ocean, was seized with such terror at the idea of incurring his master's anger, that he took shelter in the urn which the allegorical figure of *l'Océan* holds under its arm, and there remained concealed during three days.

At the entrance of the port stands *la Mâtine*, the place where

the vessels are, in the course of twenty minutes, masted or dis-masted, by an ingenious contrivance of the engineer Petit. *Brest* was a place of some consequence in the time of the Romans, who built here a castle. It has undergone many vicissitudes; and it owes its present celebrity to Cardinal Richelieu, "at all times great when he was not vindictive." In 1631, he cleared the basin, and brought into it twenty ships, which he had purchased in Holland. Colbert, to whom France is likewise so greatly indebted, invited thither carpenters from Holland, smiths from Sweden, ropemakers from Hamburgh, Dantzick, and Riga; and, at length, Admiral Beaufort took his place in this roadstead, at the head of sixty ships of the line.

The port of *Brest* is closed by an immense chain, which is drawn level with the water, every night, from sun-set to sun-rise. On every side are batteries, mounted with cannon, mortars, &c., which protect the fleet and vessels from the attack of an enemy.

Long. West $6^{\circ} 47' 30''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 22' 42''$. One hundred and thirty-eight leagues from Paris.

At the distance of about five leagues from *Brest* is the Isle of Ouessant, which is seven leagues in circumference, and contains 1,300 inhabitants. Its coasts are almost inaccessible; indeed it appears formerly to have been united to the land, by banks of sand, rocks, and islets, which still render its approach difficult to those unacquainted with their localities, many of them having disappeared from the eye. Ouessant produces the smallest and lightest horses to be found in France. The simplicity of the inhabitants of this island is proverbial, as well as their honesty and sobriety. There is but one inn in the place; and ancient custom has established a law highly conducive to the cultivation of these virtues:—it is forbidden to give more than one bottle of wine to the same person in the course of the same day, and this of the *vin du pays*; not port, nor Madeira, &c. These sober people are hospitable and charitable in the strictest sense of the word, ready to risk their lives to preserve those of the poor shipwrecked victims who are cast upon their coast. They are poor fishermen by trade, but enjoy as many of the comforts of life as their contented minds pronounce sufficient. Not so the inhabitants of Seven Islands, a short distance from Morlaix. These islands may rather be termed a cluster of mere rocks, for they are bare and barren, and their inhabitants are exposed to the greatest

hardships. The inhabitants of the island of Sein, too, in particular, from its peculiar situation opposite *la pointe du Raz*, between which and *la pointe Plagoff* is the *passage du Raz*, suffer incredible hardships. The sea is here at all times so furious, that the sailors call it *le trou d'enfer*, and the most daring of them never pass it without ejaculating,—“*Aidez moi, grand Dieu, dans le passage du Raz ! mon navire est si petit, et la mer est si grande !*” In fact, nothing can be more awful and appalling than the view which the sea presents at this *passage du Raz*, beating with unceasing fury against a rock rising to a peak, 300 feet high ; and to add to the effect on the minds of its superstitious inhabitants, they imagine that the *red sands*, which the waves momentarily leave bare, are dyed with the blood of their shipwrecked victims ; and the howling of the winds they transform into the groans of the dying. The gentleness of their disposition, and their hospitality, induced a clergyman to make arrangements for their removal from such a desolate residence ; but, with tears in their eyes, they implored him to allow them to remain in their native place, their native rock. The good minister yielded to their entreaties, but resolved on supplying them with a regular portion of food, which, in his bounty, he has assured to them.

Ah ! que l'amour de la patrie
Est un besoin impérieux !
Ces pêcheurs, à toute autre vie,
Préfèrent leur sort affreux,—
A' nos cités, un sol aride ;—
La misère, aux pieux, au plaisir ;
C'est l'amour du sol qui les guide
Ils naissent là—pour mourir.

MORLAIX is said to be the *finest* city in this department ; but a French author observes, that it should be only designated as *la moins vilaine*. Its port, which is pretty, is formed by the junction of the rivers *Therleat* and *Jarléau*, which are here united by a canal, from whence they flow into the sea. The quays are cased with granite, having an iron stair. *L'Hôtel de Ville*, and the fine steeple of the church of *St. Matthieu*, are worthy of admiration. This church was formerly much ornamented by the arms and escutcheons of the families of *les Kerrets* and *les Guiscaynou*, whose device affirmed, in the Breton language, that they were the first inhabitants of the earth. This vanity even surpassed that of

the Burgundian gentleman, who, as he could not be received into the ark, begged Noah would take care of his pedigree at the time of the deluge. The castle of Morlaix has been several times besieged; and its dungeons, through which the water always filters at high tides, have been the scene of many a cruel tragedy. Morlaix possesses a fine hospital. Here Mary Queen of Scots disembarked, in 1543, when she passed into France, previous to her marriage with the Dauphin, afterwards Francis II. As this princess was crossing the drawbridge, in a litter, the cavalry, who formed part of the cortège, were so numerous, that the bridge broke. The Scotch called out "treason! treason!" and an affray was likely to ensue, but for the presence of mind of the Seigneur de Rohan, who was walking beside Mary. "The Bretons," he exclaimed, "are incapable of treason." His accent and his manner were impressive, and order was restored.

Morlaix carries on a brisk trade in horses, cattle, linseed, hemp, pease, beans, butter, tallow, honey, and wax; and its neighbourhood is rich in quarries of slate and stone, and mines of lead. Its manufactures consist in sail-cloth, thread, oil, snuff, and paper.

Long. West $6^{\circ} 8' 30''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 33'$. One hundred and twenty-three leagues West of Paris.

LANDERNEAU is more remarkable for its customs and superstitions than any thing else, and with a few of them the reader shall be made acquainted; and first of marriages, which somewhat resemble the penny weddings of Scotland, with the addition of a few extras, which are not a little amusing. Before marriage, the lovers have but little intercourse; the poets of the country, called *Baz Valan*, enacting *lovers general* for the rest of the community. These gentlemen, bearing a sprig of broom in their hand, repair to the house of the lady, and in the following words, in the Breton language, which is only understood by themselves, thus make their demand:—

"Fut elle fille de la maison de Penmarch,
Depuis assez long-temps je la demande.
Est elle vertueuse? accorde la;
de la."

After this ceremony, if the proposal be accepted, the lover is occasionally permitted to see his intended; and in order to ascertain her fidelity, he endeavours to procure that pin which fastens

the gown nearest her heart; having procured this treasure, he hastens to *plunge* it into the fountain *de Bedilis*, in the neighbourhood; if the pin float, the innocence and fidelity of the lady are established beyond a doubt. Some malicious persons do say, that the pin is now replaced by a *long thorn*! When the parties are married, the guests run away with the bride, and the bridegroom is compelled to buy her back again; but he is amply repaid this expense by what follows:—every guest not only brings his dish, but is compelled to make a present to the bride; and as these guests sometimes assemble to the number of four or five hundred, the ménage of the newly-married couple is, in such cases, amply provided with all that is necessary.

There are also other singular *marriage* institutions in different parts of Brittany, particularly at Penzé, in the department of *Finistère*. On an appointed day, the *paysannes*, or female pretenders to the holy state of matrimony, assemble on the bridge of the village, and, seating themselves upon the parapet, there patiently await the arrival of the future bridegrooms. All the neighbouring cantons contribute their beller to ornament this renowned bridge. There may be seen the peasant of *Saint Polaire*, her ruddy countenance surrounded by her large muslin sleeves, which rise up and form a kind of frame work to her full face; by her may be seated the heavy *Touloisienne*, in her cloth *caline*, of gown; the peasant of *la Léonarde*, in a Swiss boddice, bordered with different coloured worsted braid, and a scarlet petticoat, may next appear, presenting a gaudy contrast to her neighbour from *Saint Thegonnec*, in her nun-like costume. On one side extends *la voulie de Penhoat*, bordered with willows, honey-suckles, and the wild hop; on the other, the sea, confined here like a lake, between numerous jets of land covered with heath and sweet broom; and below the bridge, the thatched town, poor and joyous as the beggar of *Cornouailles*. The bay is here so calm, that the whole of this gay scene is reflected in its still waters; and few scenes of rural festivity present a more animated or diverting picture.

The arrival of the young men with their parents is the signal for silence among the candidates for a husband. The gentlemen advance, and gravely parade up and down the bridge, looking first on this side, and then on that, until the face of some one of the lasses strike their fancy. The fortunate lady receives intima-

tion of her success by the advance of the cavalier, who, presenting his hand, assists her in descending from her seat, making at the same time a tender speech; compliments are exchanged, the young man offers fruit to his intended bride, who remains motionless before him, playing with her apron strings. In the mean while the parents of the parties approach each other, talk over the matter of their children's marriage, and if both parties are agreeable they shake hands, and this act of friendly gratulation is considered a ratification of the treaty between them, and the marriage is shortly afterwards celebrated.

To Saint Hervé, till very lately, these simple folk offered butter, because that blind saint having been always conducted about by a wolf, they considered he could protect their flocks from the ravages of that rapacious animal. Saint Eloi is the patron of horses, and when one of these animals gapes, its owner always says, "*Saint Eloi vous préserve!*"

The Bretons, it should seem, are more attached to their horses than to their wives; for if the former are sick, they run to a blacksmith instantly; the latter are left to the care of nature in their extremity.

The remedies of the people of Finisterre are all remarkable for their simplicity, and the effects produced by them are very naturally such as might be expected, as the following one, out of many such, will certify. "*When your horse is very tired, you must shut him up in a stable during three days; the animal will then be cured, if you give sixpence to the curate.*"

Near St. Médard there is a miraculous fountain, into which the saint of that name, having had his hand cut off, plunged the stump, and the hand was immediately restored to its former anatomical position, safe and sound. A statue commemorates this fact.

The Bretons of Finisterre have, from their isolated situation, retained the customs, manners, and superstitions of their ancestors, which are intermingled as much with those derived from the Druids as from those derived from the Catholic religion; and in both cases their superstition arises from the liveliness of their imaginations, and the fervour of their zeal, which the ancient Druids turned to a profitable account, an example imitated by the early Catholic priests, who, in endeavouring to supplant the cruel and idolatrous religion of the Gauls, found it necessary to

convert the miracles performed by the druidical gods, into miracles performed by the interposition of the saints. Spirits, ghosts, fairies, sorcerers, shadows, all were preserved, but their origin and their effects were attributed to different causes.

On the eve of *Saint John*, the poor children of the towns and villages of *Britanny*, with a plate in their hand, go from door to door begging alms, in order to purchase a fagot to burn in honour of *St. John*. In the evening the summit of every mountain blazes with a bonfire, round which the villagers assemble in joyous, noisy mirth. The young girls repair thither in their gayest habits; and if their strength will permit them to visit nine of these mountain fires, they will be sure to have a husband before the year is out! At *Finisterre* the bonfire is kindled by an angel, who, by means of a very simple mechanism, descends, with a flambeau in his hand, from the top of a tower, and sets fire to the wood, and he immediately ascends, and disappears. In many parishes the curate himself, bearing the cross in grand procession, kindles the fire prepared in the middle of the village. The Bretons have a great veneration for a piece of half-consumed wood of *Saint John*: this piece of wood placed near their bed, between a piece of box-wood, consecrated on Palm Sunday, and a piece of twelfth-cake, preserves them, they say, from the effects of thunder. The crown, which surmounts the bonfire, is also in much request; its faded flowers being a powerful talisman against every evil, both of body and soul. At *Brest*, the fête of *St. John* possesses a most fantastic character. Towards the evening, all the children, artisans, and sailors of the town, repair to the glacis, each carrying a burning torch, to which they give a rapid rotary motion. These fiery circles present a curious appearance; sometimes they assume a waving form, of the most fantastic arabesques; sometimes they are darted into the air, and, falling upon the trees, the air is illumined by a thousand stars: this amusement continues until the close of the gates. In *Poitou*, a cart wheel is surrounded by trusses of straw, which is kindled by a consecrated taper. This burning wheel is carried in triumph over the fields, which it is said to fertilize. The traces of Druidism are here evident: the burning wheel is an image of the disk of the sun, which, in its zodiacal course, fertilizes the earth. Along the banks of the *Loire*, the mariners place a female sailor upon the top of their bonfire, and this

peculiarity seems to recal the renewal of the household fires at the ancient fête of the solstice.

It is thus that observation enables us to recal the past in the present.

The language of the Bretons is more Celtic, even in these days, than French. Finisterre possesses but little wood. Its heaths are large and uncultivated; here and there a small spot of richly cultivated ground is seen, like the isles of the desert, enlivening and cheering the dismal prospect; and in the midst of these the houses of the cultivators stand, surrounded by smiling orchards and meadows, where the violet, snow-drops, and wild jonquils, shed their fragrance in vain.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

For how can these people possess any of those enjoyments which the beauties of nature shed around their humble dwellings, when, from choice, they muddle on in every species of dirt, from which result the most disgusting diseases? Round their houses runs a deep ditch, in which the rain-water stagnates, and into this they fling their vegetable refuse, in order to compose manure for their lands. These miserable dwellings are thirty feet long, and fifteen wide; they are *illuminated* by one window only, two feet square. The floor is of earth, generally full of holes, so deep, that the children are often lamed by falling into them. The beasts, separated from the rest of the family by hurdles, inhabit this comfortable dwelling in company with their masters, unless the latter, which frequently is the case, gets tipsy, and finds a cooler sleeping place in one of the ditches which surround his dwelling.

The costume of the Bretons consists of a coarse woollen garment, wooden shoes, and short trowsers, similar to fishermen, and so full as to resemble a petticoat; the richer sort, in addition to these habiliments, add a waistcoat of lamb-skin, nicely dressed; this they wear next their skin, the wool inside. The hair of the Bretons is long and straight, and their head is mostly covered with a thick woollen cap: add to this description the fact that they *never bathe*, nor wash even their faces, and the Breton of Finisterre will appear any thing but an agreeable object to look at. This picture of a portion of the French people is given on the authority of a modern French author, whose work is much

esteemed, and is only detailed here as containing a curious fact, that, in one of the most civilized countries of Europe, such misery should exist, which one would only expect to meet with in perusing the accounts given of the uncivilized isles of the great oceans that surround the world; with this difference, that under this coarse exterior, the Breton is said to possess a lively imagination and a discerning mind! It may be so; for in the infancy of society men are much under the dominion of imagination and passion, but it appears rather an anomaly in the history of this part of mankind.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF CÔTES DU NORD.

This is a maritime department, (N.W.) composed of a portion of ancient *Brétagne*.

SOIL.—This department presents, in many parts, extensive *landes* or heaths; yet the soil is in some respects rich, for it produces corn, hemp, and flax; and the pasture lands that are, are excellent; generally speaking, however, it is an unfruitful soil.

FORESTS.—There are extensive woods in this department.

RIVERS.—There are no rivers, properly speaking, in this department: here and there small streams may be seen gliding silently along between the banks, like silver threads interwoven with the verdure of a luxuriant tapestry.

MINES.—Iron, lead, and silver, are found in the vicinity of Lannion; and at Dinan there are mineral waters.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of St. Brieux. The Protestants have some churches in this department.

This department is divided into five arrondissements, viz.:—*Saint Brieux, Lannion, Dinan, Laudeac, and Guingamp*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale de Rennes*, and it is comprised in the thirteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

SAINT-BRIEUX is seated about half a league from the sea, but so surrounded by mountains, that this magnificent object is not discernible, although vessels of 400 or 500 tons burthen ascend to its little port. It is curious and interesting on a clear, calm day, to approach St. Brieux on the land side, for then the British Channel appears in the distance, like a sea of molten glass,

reflecting back the numerous vessels that glide, like spirits, over its yielding bosom, gently bowing their proud heads, as if in homage to the mighty deep. But while the eye thus wanders with delight over the calm sea, a glance will be sufficient to change the scene to one of a very different description. In the Bay of *Brieux* is the small gulf of *Port au Moine*, and here the waves at all times rage and foam, as if to force that boundary which nature has placed against their inroads: but vain are its foaming billows—impotent its mighty roar. A mightier power controls their fury—a mightier voice forbids their encroachment. “Hitherto,” said the Almighty, “shalt thou come, but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.” On looking at the *everlasting rocks of Port au Moine*, they seem equal to resist its force. The sands on the sea-shore present no such visible barriers to its encroachment, yet are they no less efficient instruments to perform His will who bade creation spring from chaos.

St. Brieux is a very ancient city, since as early as the year 552 it had a bishop. It has many fine streets, and its cathedral and theatre are its most remarkable buildings.

Long. West $5^{\circ} 4' 10''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 31' 2''$. Eighty leagues West of Paris.

DINAN.—The walls of this town are remarkable, for they are so thick as to permit a carriage to be driven along the top of them. It is exceedingly ancient, deriving its name from Diana. In the neighbourhood of this is *Carseull*, a town mentioned by Cæsar, as a great city inhabited by the Curiosolites. It is still, as then, *celebrated*, but for its green schistus only.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF MORBIHAN.

This is a maritime department (N.W.), consisting of a part of ancient *Brétagne*.

Soil.—It is in most parts sandy and unfruitful. The undulating plains are much intersected by low, cold, marshy lands, yet it produces corn sufficient for its annual consumption. There are some salt marshes near the sea, which are productive.

RIVERS.—It is watered by the *Vilaine*, *Blavel*, *Claye*, *Ourt*, and *Scorff*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, appertaining to the Bishopric of *Vannes*.

This department is divided into four arrondissements, viz., *Vannes*, *Ploermel*, *L'Orient*, and *Pontivy*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale de Rennes*, and it is comprised in the thirteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

VANNES was one of the most ancient towns among the Gauls. Cæsar speaks of it as vastly superior in many respects to all other towns for a great distance around it, on account of its numerous vessels trading to Britain; by the great knowledge displayed by its inhabitants in maritime affairs; and by the safety of its ports, which made neighbouring countries tributary to it, and dependent upon its commerce. Strabo affirms, it was founded by a colony of the Vincetæ, the founders, likewise, of Venice. *Vannes* is greatly fallen from its former glory; but it still retains its opulence, which depends upon the industry and commerce of the inhabitants.

Vannes contains only two fine streets, and its public buildings are not worth mentioning.

Long. West $5^{\circ} 5' 19''$; **lat.** $47^{\circ} 39' 29''$. One hundred and eight leagues from Paris.

BELLE ISLE lies off *Quiberon Bay*: it is ten leagues in circumference, and is surrounded by steep rocks; it can only be closely approached at three places. In 1761 the English made an ineffectual attempt upon it. It produces wheat and oats of a peculiarly fine description. The inhabitants lead a life partly pastoral, partly seafaring.

L'ORIENT is a very fine town, and is worthy of its fine port. Its streets are long and spacious, and the buildings are regular and in modern taste. It was erected by the East-India Company of France as the dépôt for their merchandise and marine stores; but in 1775 this company was suppressed because of its debts; it was re-established ten years afterwards, but *L'Orient* remained in the possession of the king, and during the revolution the company was again dissolved.

Long. $5^{\circ} 41' 17''$; **lat.** $47^{\circ} 45' 11''$. One hundred and twenty-one leagues from Paris.

Upon the coast of Carnar, there are a great number of those

stones called *Men-Hirs*, supposed to be sepulchral monuments of the Druids. They consist of some hundreds, and are ranged in straight lines in symmetrical order, and at a distance they have the appearance of an army of giants, drawn up in battle array, to defend the rocky coast. The superstitious inhabitants of Brittany believe, that, at certain periods of the year, on clear moonlight nights, numerous dwarfs assemble, and form enchanted rings round the *Men-Hir*, making "night hideous," and compelling the affrighted to flee, if they would escape their magic spells, for these supernatural sprites endeavour to entangle their victims, it is said, by striking the sepulchral stones with a piece of gold. The *Men-Hirs* are upright stones, from twelve to twenty feet high, some even higher. The *Dol-Men*, of which there are many likewise in this department, consist of one large long flat stone, resting upon perpendicular ones. By some antiquarians they are conceived to have some relation to Noah, for in the north of Europe they are generally found supported by eight legs; in France they sometimes rest on three, sometimes on more; but none, the narrator has met with, have eight supporters; the position, however, of the legs of those in France, evidently proves there have been more. The *Dol-Men* is considered as the sacrificial stone of the Druids: many of these retain the impression of the grooves made for the purpose of carrying off the blood of the unhappy victims.*

In the vast *lande d'Helléau*, between *Ploermel* and *Josselin*, a tall obelisk of granite arrests the attention of the traveller: it was erected by Louis XVIII., to commemorate the *Combat des Trentes*, which took place in the year 1351, at the period when *Charles de Blois*, and the *Count de Montfort*, disputed their right to the duchy of Brittany. The state of the country was at this period most awful; not only the castles, but every hut was fortified, for the country was over-run by the soldiers of both parties. France took part with Charles, England with

* These *Dol-men* are precisely the *cromlech* and *kist-vaen* of the Scottish and Danish rites of paganism. The term *cromlech* is the Armorican word *crum*, "crooked" and "bewing," with the adjunct *leh*, a "stone." These *cromlechs* are common in Anglesea, Cornwall, and other parts of Britain. Some antiquarians have, however, supposed the *cromlech* to be the remains of tombs of ancient chiefs, upon which their clans in after times offered up sacrifices.

De Montfort; and the antipathy of these two nations, for so many centuries rivals in war—in short, in every thing—was sufficient greatly to increase the misery of the poor Bretons. At length, during a truce after the battle of *Auway*, in which *De Montfort* was the victor, the celebrated *Combat des Trentes* took place between *Beaumanoir*, who had possession of *Josselin*, and *Bembro* of that of *Ploermel*; the latter is said to have chased and hunted with the lawless spirit of the times, and committed many depredations in the villages. *Beaumanoir* complained of this infringement of the truce,—the Englishman rebutted the charge haughtily,—a challenge ensued, and it was agreed that thirty Bretons, and thirty Englishmen, should meet under the oak *de la Mivoie*, in the *Lande d'Helléau*, to settle this difference. On the first onset, the English had the advantage; two Breton squires were killed, and two knights and one squire were taken prisoners. The combatants, after a long and bloody contest, separated, for a time, by mutual consent, in order to recover their strength. *Beaumanoir*, in the next engagement, was wounded, and was summoned to surrender himself a prisoner by *Bembro*, when the latter was killed by a lance: the death of their chief caused a momentary disorder among the English, at which moment, the Breton prisoners escaped, and again joined the *mêlée*; at this crisis the squire of *Montauban*, one of the Bretons, quitted the field, and mounting his war-horse, rushed in upon the English, and with his heavy mare overthrew many of them, and the rest laid down their arms, and were conducted prisoners to *Josselin*. The victory was certainly gained by the Bretons, but the combat was to be *on foot*, and this infringement of the laws of arms, sufficiently proves that, but for this *ruse de guerre*, which appears inconsistent with the chivalrous spirit of those ages, and would be considered as a breach of honour in these, the Bretons apprehended the victory would have been on the side of their opponents, and therefore had resource to this unfair stratagem. This is the *French account of the matter*. The old oak had long since disappeared, and the imperfect remains of a cross, which are still to be seen, occupied its site; and truly, the erection of such a lasting monument as a granite obelisk, to perpetuate the memory of a deed which is tinged with dishonour, seems a work of supererogation.

4.—DEPARTMENT OF ILLE ET VILAINE.

*Les Rochers.*

This is a maritime department (N.W.), and was anciently *Haute-Bretagne*.

SOIL.—The foundation of this soil is granite, covered with beds of schistus, intersected by thin threads of quartz. The vegetable earth is no where more than a few inches thick.

MOUNTAINS.—Properly speaking, the department does not contain any mountains; but in the north a chain of elevated hills, from which spring a number of streams.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are,—*La Vilaine, l'Ille, le Connessenon*, and the *Rance*. The canal of Ille and Rance unites the Ocean and the Channel.

PONDS.—This department contains a great number of ponds. That of *Lande-Parelle*, in the commune of *Parigné*, is covered by a half solid crust, formed of the remains of roots and herbage, which forms a floating island upon which cattle feed.

COASTS.—The coast presents a great number of rocks, which the violence of the waters have separated from the Continent; upon many of these, forts have been erected.

MARSHES.—Those of *Dob* were formed at the beginning of the eighth century by an overflow of the sea. The waters retiring by degrees, in the course of a little time the peasants cultivated the land, and finally erected many habitations upon it; but

in 1606 and 1630 the sea returned with fresh violence, and completely destroyed the communes of *Sainte Anne* and *Peluel*. Since that period dikes have been constructed at *Dob*, which have prevented the like misfortune.

LANDES OR HEATHS.—These occupy one quarter of the department. These vast plains, covered with furzes and brambles, afford but a sorry pasturage for cattle.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Dugnarge Ironin*, a naval character; *Labinau*; *Simon de Montfort*, chief of the crusades against the Albigenses; *Maupertuis*, *Doulieu de Sainte-Foix*, author of *Essais sur Paris*; *Savary*, traveller and antiquary; *Vauban*, marshal of France and engineer; *Châteaubriant*; *Alexander Duval*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. The department forms part of the diocese of *Rennes*.

This department is divided into six *arrondissemens*, viz., *Rennes*, *Fongère*, *Montfort*, *Redon*, *St. Malo*, *Vitré*. This department depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Rennes*, and it is comprised in the thirteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

RENNES is a very ancient city, seated on the banks of the *Vilaine*, which divides it into two parts. It suffered much in former times by intestine wars; for when the Bretons had no foreign enemies to contend with, they fought against each other. In 1720 a carpenter, having gotten tipsy, set fire to his shop, (not willingly): the houses of *Rennes*, at this epoch, were principally of wood, and the consuming element spread rapidly on all sides, and reaching the principal square, in which the Parliament of *Rennes* held its ancient sittings, it considerably damaged this extensive *Place du Palais*; during eight successive days, the fire raged with inconceivable fury, destroying 850 houses, and consuming all with it. *Rennes*, like the phoenix, rose more beautiful from its ashes, for the buildings are now chiefly constructed of stone; the streets are wide, and the public edifices are upon a grand scale. The palace formerly belonging to the abbots; the front of the church of *St. Etienne*, the towers of which are like those of *Notre Dame*, and are seen from a great distance; the Abbey of *St. George's*; the Palace of Justice, which is highly ornamental to an enclosure resembling the

Place Vendôme at Paris; the ancient Hôtel de Ville; the church of the ancient *Collège Royal*, built after the Italian fashion, the front ornamented by two octagonal towers, and surmounted in the middle by a small tower resembling a lantern, of most exquisite workmanship; these form conspicuous and interesting features in the city of Rennes, the ancient *Conduces Redones* of the Romans, and capital in those days of the province *Armorica*.

The monks of the Priory of *Lirré*, who had contributed largely to the foundation of this college, had established, among other rights of lordship, the following singular privilege. On the day of the patron saint of the priory, the lord prior (seigneur prieur) seated himself in an arm-chair in the square, and there all the brides of the past year were compelled to appear, and imprint a kiss on his cheek, after which, each sang a couplet which had been made expressly for herself. When the priory was united to the college, the priests would not sanction a privilege, the advantage of which extended no further than to the prior; and instead thereof, they imposed a tax upon the husbands, of a quarter of a pound of wax and five *sous*. But the Bretons commenced a law-suit against the Jesuits, which lasted forty years, for the purpose of compelling them to accept the kiss and the song, but the Parliament of Brittany decided in favour of the reverend fathers. The revolution, however, released the Bretons from this tax.

The manufactures of Rennes consist of hats, blankets, cordage, sail-cloth; and, above all, in thread, which is so very excellent, that a witty French author observes, that if a spendthrift assured his creditor he was likely soon to inherit a large fortune upon the death of a relation, whose life hung upon a thread, the creditor might pray that it was not upon a thread manufactured at Rennes.

There are many pleasant walks in the neighbourhood, particularly that from the walk called the Course, and the old garden of the Benedictines named *Thabor*, from its great elevation.

Long. West $4^{\circ} 1' 2''$; lat. $45^{\circ} 6' 5''$. Eighty-three leagues West by North.

ST. MALO is built on a rock, called the rock of Aaron, and is joined by a causeway to the continent; it is defended by a

castle, erected by Anne of Brittany, and eight forts or islets,—la Conchée, constructed by Vauban, is the finest. The ramparts are magnificent, and are cut out of the rock; they afford an agreeable promenade to the inhabitants.

But the defence of St. Malo was formerly entrusted to *bull-dogs*; these were let loose when the drum beat the retreat, and from that hour until the drums again assembled its military defenders, no one could enter the port without losing his life. It once happened that a man, who was asleep upon some bales of merchandize, was not aroused from his slumbers by the beat of the drums, and the next morning a few of his bones only were found: in consequence of this faithful execution of their duty, all the bull-dogs of St. Malo were killed. History informs us, that the dogs of Rome underwent the same fate for the neglect of theirs. St. Malo is very wealthy, and is equally busy in peace and war, either in fitting out ships of war or merchantmen, or in prosecuting an immense trade in cod fish, large quantities of which they ship off for Cadiz; and return, bringing with them from the south of Europe its various productions:

Long. West $4^{\circ} 21' 26''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 39' 30''$. Sixty leagues North-West from Paris.

St. Scowen, which is united to St. Malo by the Causeway, formerly formed part of it. This place is, like Marseilles, surrounded by country houses.

5.—DEPARTMENT OF LOIRE INFÉRIEURE.

This is a maritime department (W.), composed of *Haute Brétagne*.

SOIL.—The soil, which is thick, is composed of the animal and vegetable debris; it reposes upon a foundation of schistus or granite.

MOUNTAINS.—There are, in fact, no mountains, properly speaking, in this department. The highest hills are covered with vegetable and clayey beds of earth, mixed with pebbles, red and white quartz, &c.

SANDS AND DOWNS.—About the middle of the eighteenth century, the village of *Escoublac* was gradually, and, finally, completely buried under the vast bodies of sand, which, day by day, advanced from the ocean, until, in 1779, the inhabitants

were compelled to relinquish their attendance at the parish church, the steeple of which was visible not many years ago, although it has now totally disappeared. The present village may perhaps eventually share the same fate.

RIVERS.—The navigable rivers of the department are,—the *Loire*, the *Sèvre Nantaise*, the *Maine*, *Moine*, *Achenan*, *Don*, *Isac*, and the *Ognon*. There are also two canals which contribute to the interior navigation; that of *Nantes*, which communicates with *Brest*, and that of *Achenan*, which conducts the waters of the *Loire* to the lake *Grând lac*.

MINES.—At *Ancenis*, and *Chateaubriant*, there are some very productive iron mines. Loadstones are found on the surface of the soil, in the plain of *Villées-Martin*; tin at *Piriac*; quarries of granite at *Nantes*, *Vigneux*, and *Orvaux*; *Raoli*, clay, slate, pit-coal, &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are ferruginous mineral waters at *la Plaine*, *Pornic*, and *Bellevue*; those of the former are most frequented. At *Pornic* there are sea baths.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Nantes* there are numerous societies and museums.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Jacques Cussard*, *Anne de Bretagne*, *Abelard*, *La Condamince*, *Des Forges*, *Maillard*, *Fouché*, *Combrun*, *Madame du Fresnoy*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Nantes*. There is a consistorial Protestant church at *Nantes*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Nantes*, *Ancenis*, *Chateaubriant*, *Paimbœuf*, *Savenay*. It depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Rennes*; it is comprised in the twelfth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

NANTES is surnamed *la Jolie*, and it deserves this epithet, for its monuments, its walks, its public buildings, deserve admiration, both on account of their beauty and their convenience: the church of St. Peter, the new Exchange, the Theatre, and the Hôtel de Ville, in which there is a museum, and the faux-bourg of *la Fosse*, inhabited by the wealthy merchants, may be placed on a footing with *la Chaussée d'Antin* of Paris, and *les Chartrons* at Bordeaux. The *Loire* is, at this part of the city, 1080 feet wide, and its glassy bosom gemmed with emerald

islets, and its banks covered with handsome buildings, beyond which a smiling country, rich and beautiful, presents itself, forms one of the most agreeable pictures that can be imagined. The breadth of the river at Pirmil would immediately convey a lofty idea of its bridge, but, alas! it may rather be termed a succession of many small bridges, for the islets in the stream totally prevent the possibility of forming one grand bridge, unless the inhabitants were to construct a suspension bridge; that, indeed, would form a noble and beautiful object, and would be worthy of this fine river.

Nantes contains a public library, School of Anatomy, Lyceum, a Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Commerce, the Arts and Sciences, a *Jardin des Plantes*, and a School for Hydrography. The quays present a superb view, which rises in the form of an amphitheatre.

Nantes is one of the most commercial towns of France, although the larger vessels cannot ascend the Loire so high up as Nantes, they stop at Paimbœuf. Nantes was formerly one of the strongest fortified cities in France, and indeed it needed every and the best mode of defence, for it was constantly exposed to military attacks both in ancient and modern times. Henry IV., on going over its ancient castle, exclaimed,—“*Ventre-saint-gris, les ducs de Bretagne n'étaient pas de petits compagnons.*” Nantes was the birth-place of Anne of Brittany, who married Louis XII., and it claims the renowned Duguesclin among its worthies. The features of this great man were so hideous, that he said of himself one day, when looking at his face in a glass, “I am so ugly, the ladies will never have any thing to say to me; but I know how I can gain another kind of beauty, by my courage.” His temper was so violent and overbearing, that he was quite insupportable, even to his parents; and his poor mother often said of him, with tears in her eyes; “He is certainly the worst boy in the world; he is always beating or being beaten; his father and I would be happy to see him laid under ground.”

It was at this town that Henry IV. signed the ever-memorable Edict of Nantes, A.D. 1598. The happiest effects resulted from this wise and benevolent edict: France, no longer a prey to religious apprehensions, which were replaced by peace and tranquillity, rose suddenly to a pitch of prosperity unknown before.

The manufactures of stuffs, tapestry, crystals, earthenware, &c. &c., attained a degree of perfection generally acknowledged, and brought with them their consequent adjuncts, wealth and riches. But this happiness was of short continuance; a century had scarcely elapsed, when Louis XIV., by revoking this decree, stripped France of thousands of her most industrious inhabitants, who fled to more tolerant countries, carrying with them those arts which have enriched the nations which received and sheltered them in the hour of persecution.

Nantes was, however, fortunate in escaping the horrors of the night of St. Bartholomew. In later times, the misfortunes of the elder branch of the house of Bourbon, have added considerable interest to the records of this town.

Its commerce is very great with all parts of the world.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 52' 59''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 13' 7''$. Eighty-six leagues South-West from Paris.

Near Chateaubriant stands the *Abbaye de Meilleraye*. This abbey formerly belonged to the order of La Trappe; but during the reign of Napoleon these monks took refuge in England, that asylum for the unfortunate of all countries.

Stranger! would'st thou Albion know,
Ask the family of woe.

These Trappists, on their return to their native country, took possession of the *Abbaye de Meilleraye*, which was given up to them by its proprietor; and they have not only thus re-established themselves in this their former domain, but have restored this vast building to a state perfectly habitable, and have introduced the English mode of agriculture into the neighbourhood, to the great advantage of the inhabitants.

CROISIC is a sea-port town of no great eminence; but there are two anecdotes respecting it worthy of insertion. The inhabitants of this part of Brittany are of Saxon origin, and they are distinguished by the virtue of cleanliness; they are, almost without exception, mariners and pilots; and a few years ago, when the fishing, or other vessels, were expected to enter the port, their wives and sweethearts, in their best apparel, their hair floating in the wind, ran to a certain rock, carrying in their hand a fine nosegay; extending their arms towards heaven, they sang the following song to the birds of the ocean:

"Goûlans! Goûlans!
Ramenez nous nos maris, nos amants."

These people are remarkable for their humanity, and their generous efforts to assist vessels in distress which are driven near their coasts. In 1812, a vessel named the *Conquistador*, struck on the rocks called *le Foue*, in the neighbourhood. The sea ran mountains high, the night fell, and a thick fog set in, which rendered all assistance impracticable. The *Crosiquais* listened with intense interest as the mournful sound of the minute guns stole on their ear: they lighted fires on every eminence; at eight o'clock, the cannon ceased firing: there was then but one impulse, and though it presented almost certain death, it was simultaneously obeyed. All the boats of the port were immediately pushed into the foaming waves, and they happily reached safely the rock of *la Foue*. The distressed vessel was English,—it was war time,—no matter, they eagerly assisted the unfortunate mariners to right their vessel and get her afloat; and when this was near accomplished, they returned to their anxious friends. Lord William Stewart sent his pistols as a present to the commissary of the port, asking, at the same time, for a list of the sailors of the town who were prisoners in Great Britain, and within a fortnight these men were restored to their friends and their families. While the vessel remained in the port to refit, the most friendly intercourse was established between the two parties.

Desforges, the poet, was a native of this place. Having written a poem in honour of Louis XIV., he offered it to the academy, who either could not, or would not see its merit. The poet sent it to La Roque, the editor of the *Mercury of France*, entreating he would insert some parts of it in his journal. De la Roque, tired at length of *Desforges* and his poetry, in a fit of passion threw the manuscripts into the fire, declaring he never would print any thing written by *Desforges*. In despair the poet withdrew into the country, and fixed himself in a house, over which climbed a vine called *Meilleraye*. Still convinced that his poetry was worth reading, he, with the assistance of a lady who copied his verses, contrived for a length of time to deceive the critics, and enjoy a most abundant portion of praise under the name of *Mademoiselle Mailleraye de la Vigne*. Paris was inundated with poetry by this new muse, designated *the Teuth*, and La Roque published in his journal every line which appeared; and, finally, fell in love with the unknown author, and wrote to her, declaring his passion,—“*Je vous aime, ma chère Bretonne, pardonnez-*

our most excellent poet is not yet dead. On the contrary, he lives
what neither age nor death can destroy. This letter, that Voltaire,
who loved himself, did not want to be a beautiful copy of his
Henriade, and of his *History of Charles XII.*, accompanied by a
letter, which began thus:—

Tel, dont le vol est rapide et volé sur nos bords
Vois qu'il tiens à Paris nos tristes attentions.

Qui s'is et bien associer •

Et la science et l'art de plaire

Et les talents du Deshoulière,

Et les études de Dacier,

J'ose envoyer aux pieds de ta muse divine

Quelques faibles écrits, enfants de l'indolence.

Charles fut seulement l'objet de mes travaux

Henri quatre fut mon héros,

Et tu seras mon héros.

Destouches, and all the poets of France, sang their lutes in
praise of this invisible and lovely *Mademoiselle Mazarin de la
Vigne*.

This was the manner he borne in silence; the luckless poet
repaired to Paris,

Il ouvre un large bras, laisse tomber sa lyre.

Revenge succeeded to him; and the persecuted Maillart had
reason, perhaps, to lament the vanity which led him to ac-
knowledge his own poetry.

The grapes of this country seldom ripen; near so many as
the best vineyards such as they are; for, according to
the First report of them, they would set the teeth on edge, and
ripen. He used to say, that a dog having by chance tasted some
grapes of Bohemia, which were fully ripe, was so disgusted with
their sourness, that he expressed his rage ever after by barking
at a dog when he saw one.

Between a *Horrience* and a *Rest Chateau*, in the department
of the Loire, is that enormous deep, where the
waters of the Loire, in its various winds, &c. are
gathered; that is, to France, the great
as the Loire, and the Loire. These waters, which are
as the Loire, in its various winds, &c. are
gathered; that is, to France, the great

compr'ints. These are the beneficial results of an employment which some persons have, superficially and ignorantly, denominated as contributing greatly to the happiness and comfort of these poor people. Brittany, indeed, appears to be less favoured than any other part of France, if we except *les landes* in the South; yet it appears astonishing, that the constant intercourse between the capital and the port of Brest, should not operate beneficially upon the country in its environs.



The Old Oak at Allouville.

Among the natural curiosities of this department is the *old oak of Allouville*, which is to be seen in the church-yard of Allouville, about a league from *Ivetot*. This oak is thirty feet in circumference near the ground, and twenty-four about six feet above this: it is supposed to be 900 years old. At the top of the tree there is a small chamber constructed, in which is a wooden couch, and over this is a small belfry, surmounted by an iron cross. In the year 1696, the Abbé Dégrois fitted up the lower part as a chapel, which is consecrated to the Virgin. During the French revolution many attempts were made to set fire to this venerable tree, but

the inhabitants of the surrounding country defended it obstinately and successfully. This interesting vestige of the olden times, where kings and persons of all degrees have repaired, if not to pray, at least to repose themselves under its widely spreading branches, is an object of curiosity to the traveller; and if he be accompanied by an intelligent peasant, he will listen with pleasure and delight to the naïf relation of many a legend of the oak of *Allowville*.

SECTION XII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF POITOU,

CONTAINING THE DÉPARTEMENTS OF VENDÉE, DEUX-SEVRES, VIENNE.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF VENDÉE.

VENDÉE proper is composed of a part of *Bas Poitou* and a part of the marshes of *Brétagne*. It is a maritime department. (W.)

FORESTS.—Eleven forests, composed chiefly of the oak, the beech, and the horse chesnut; and numerous *boqueteaux* are dispersed throughout this department.

RIVERS.—These are numerous; six alone among them are navigable, the *Autise*, *Vendée*, *Lay*, the *Vie*, *Sèvre Niortaise*, and *Sèvre Nantaise*. There are, also, two canals, the one of which is merely a *canal de dépêchement*, the other extends from *Luçon* to the gulf of *Aiguillon*, and is navigable.

MINES.—Iron, antimony, and pitcoal; potter's clay, mill-stones, and free-stone, are found in *La Vendée*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Barnabé. Brisson*, *Beillard*, the family of *Beauharnais*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Luçon*. The Protestants have churches at *Fontenay le Comte* and *Pouzauges*, besides which they have also eight temples houses of prayer.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*. *Bourbon-Vendée*, *Fontenay le Comte*, *Les Sables d'Olonne*, *Luçon*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Poitier*. It is comprised in the twelfth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

POURBON VENDEE is the principal town of this department; it is of little note: indeed the towns of this part of Poitou are almost too insignificant to be detailed; and therefore, a general outline of the country will be far better than a recapitulation of names without any interest attached to them.

This department is divided, by nature, into three distinct parts, viz.: *la Plaine*, the plain; *le Marais*, the marsh; and *les Bocages*, so called, from the very high hedges which enclose every little tenement, and which, from the flatness of the country, give it the appearance of being one uninterrupted copse. *La Plaine* is calcareous and barren; *les Marais* are extensive and unwholesome. The inhabitants of the *Bocages* are short in stature, but strong-limbed and robust. They are kind, but taciturn; hospitable, but irritable; just, but a little distrustful; and less quarrelsome than the peasants of the plain. Strongly attached to their homes, they seldom quit them but to repair to a fair, two or three leagues distant, in order to dispose of their mules, which form the principal article of commerce in this part of the country. These animals are, indeed, so very highly prized, that dealers repair thither from Spain, Auvergne, Languedoc, Provence, and Dauphiné, to purchase them. The *Bocage* farmers breed cattle also, and horses, but it is the mule which constitutes the riches and pride of the Vandean. The departments of *la Vienne*, the *deux Sèvres*, and *la Vendée*, are said to support studs containing 500 she-asses, 20,000 mules, from which they each derive the sum of 700,000 francs annually, a sum which does not go out of the country, so that the farmers must necessarily be wealthy.

The Vandean farmer of the *Bocages* is a lonely being. When ploughing his field, his high hedge shuts him out from the rest of the world, and he cheers the solitary hours with talking and singing to his oxen; and if he were hiring a servant, he would choose him who could best *drauder*, that is to say, him who could best excite the oxen to labour by his songs.

The inhabitant of the *Plaine* is more frank in his disposition than he of the *Bocages*. Accustomed to an open country, he acquires a more extensive acquaintance with his fellow man; his temper possesses more equanimity, his address is kinder; but the Vandean who inhabits *les Marais* is quite a different being from either of these: his character resembles that of the Nomades. He

is apathetic to excess, and solitary, living mostly in his boat, which he seldom quits, except to dispose of the product of his fishing. He hardly knows the laws of his country, nor does he contribute in any pecuniary way to its support; his boat, his net, and his gun, these are his treasures. If he be struck particularly with the localities of any spot of ground, as convenient for shooting or fishing, he drives a few poles into the ground, which he surrounds and covers with twisted osiers: if he finds it practicable, he will then construct a fish-pond; and if to this article of profit he can add a cow and a flock of ducks, he thinks himself the happiest and richest man in the world, because his contentment makes him really so. The inhabitants of the Marais seldom attain a long life; marsh fevers and pestilential diseases, combined with their peculiar mode of living, shorten their existence.

In *les Bocages* there are fêtes, called *ballades*, at which assemble all the young husbandmen, crowned with ears of corn, while the young girls are crowned with flowers; and it is in these assemblies, which take place generally in the spring, that the servants hire themselves. No young woman can appear at these dances without her lover; and in the following autumn the marriage generally takes place, accompanied by many rural festivities.

These people have recourse to their *excellent rapiers* as the fittest medicinal curatives for every complaint. They cut off the head, and boil the rest in milk, and they consider this mess a sovereign panacea in all the maladies which "*God is heir to.*" But the villagers consider that internal and chronic complaints alike proceed from *sorts jetés sur eux*, and that, therefore, a diviner alone can possibly cure them; and these gentry abound in the department. If the patient be sick of a fever, the quack pronounces a few mystic words, receives his fee, and is gone; but if the malady assume a dangerous character, he puts round the neck of the credulous peasant a sack, containing a number of different kinds of herbs, gathered before the rising of the sun, and these must be of an odd number. Having forbidden the patient to peep into the poke, under pain of losing all the advantages which are to result from this remedy, he leaves his victim to live or die. But the surgeons have a still more curious method for healing an abscess, or curing a sprain, &c. These skilful performers are always on the trot, from one place to another, furnished with hatchet and a powerful ywand, by which they persuade the un-

fortunate villagers, notwithstanding the prolonged, and in many cases incurable, injuries under which they languish, that they possess a charm to which every evil must yield. The patient having seated himself on the ground, and placed his feet apart, *le toucheur* strikes the ground violently with his hatchet, receives his pay, and disappears. It may be asked in what way this blow can effect a cure. Reader, the charlatan has killed the cat which was invisibly attached to the leg of the afflicted person, and the disease very naturally disappears with the cause!

FONTENAY is only celebrated as the birth-place of Brissot, Rapin, Viète, the mathematician; and Tiraqueaux, juriscônulte. The works of the last were so numerous, and his fate so unfortunate, that the following lines serve as his epitaph:—

S'il n'eut pas noyé dans les eaux
 Une science aussi féconde,
 Il eut enfin rempli le monde
 De livres et de Tiraqueaux.

b.—DEPARTMENT OF DEUX SÈVRES.

An inland department (W.), consisting of portions of *Poitou*, *Aunis*, *Saintonge*, and *Marches*.

SOIL.—A chain of hills, or rather a vast table-land, from which rise many lofty peaks, divide the department diagonally, from South-east to North-west, into two distinct and different countries, called *la Plaine* and *le Maïs*. The former occupies the southern side, and consists of a grayey soil, intermixed with fossils and sea-shells; the latter is rocky and mountainous, intersected by valleys, covered with groves and brush-wood. The soil is sometimes calcareous, granitic, or schistus.

FORESTS.—Besides that portion of the department which is occupied by the *Poçages*, there are others containing forests of oaks and evergreens.

RIVERS.—The principal of these is the *Sèvre Niortaise*. There are many other streams of less note, and a canal is commenced, which will occupy the line between *Niort* and *la Rochelle*.

MINES.—Minerals do not abound in the *Deux Sèvres*; much salt, etc. is, however, extracted from the neighbourhood of *Niort*.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Illeyais* there is a mineral spring, very efficacious in cutaneous disorders; and several others of less note.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Anne de Parthenay*, *Madame de Maintenon*, *Isaac Beausobre*, the orientalist, *Fontanes*, the family of *La Tremouille*, so celebrated in the military annals of France; *Larochejaquelin*, *Lemaignan*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Poitiers*. The Protestants possess five consistorial churches in the department.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Niort*, *Melle*, *Parthenay*, *Brussuire*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale de Poitiers*. It is comprised in the twelfth military division.

CITY-TOWNS.

NIORT is situated upon the *Sèvre Niortaise*, and is the largest town in the department, and at the same time one possessing the fewest attractions. Two churches, one built by the English; two squares, two theatres, and a few walks, these constitute its chief ornament; and the only object of interest is the *Hôtel de Ville*, formerly the residence of Eleanor of Poitou. Its clock, which is constructed upon simple principles, is exceedingly exact as to time: it was one among the first striking clocks introduced into France. The country round the town is beautiful; and the waters of the Sèvres and of its canal carry its merchandise to the sea. Its manufacture of hamois-leather and its gloves are celebrated. *Madame de Maintenon* was born in the prison of this town, and kept sheep in the neighbourhood: *Madame de Genlis* assigns her the more honourable employment of tending geese, wearing at the same time a mask to preserve her complexion. It is proper to mention, that the latter circumstance did not arise from her own vanity, but from that of her aunt.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 49' 27''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 20' 8''$. One hundred and five leagues South-west of Paris.

THOUAIS was formerly a very strong place, but it is now a place of no note, except for a chateau built by Louis XIII., for *Marie de la Tour*, Duchess de la Tremouille, now in the possession of the Duke de Rivoli.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF VIENNE.

The department of *Vienne* is inland (W.), composed of part of *Poitou*, *Loudunais*, *Mirebalais*, and of the *Marches of Anjou*.

SOIL.—The surface in its general appearance is that of a plain, intersected by a few valleys. It is in some parts sandy, and some parts are clayey, yet there are a few good pasture lands in the arrondissement of *Loudun*.

The hills, for there are no mountains, which border *Vienne*, *Creuse*, and *Envygne*, contain a great number of fossils. Between the plains of *Chatellerault* and *Ponthémé*, there is a mass of shells conglomerated, with a natural glutin, into a solid substance. Many parts are covered with briars and heaths, and in the arrondissement of *Loudun* there are many marshes.

FORESTS.—These cover one-twelfth part of the superficies of the department.

RIVERS.—The *Vienne*, *Charente*, *Clain*, and *Creuse* are the principal rivers. The *Vienne* and the *Creuse* alone are navigable, and these for no great distance.

MINES.—Iron mines, quarries of mill stone and free stone: bone stone and lithographic stones, of a very superior quality, are found near *Chatellerault*. Indications of coal have also been discovered near *Civray*. Porphry and serpentine transparent pebbles are capable of being cut; they were formerly called *Diamans de Chatellerault*.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Roche Pozay* there is a cold mineral sulphureous spring, very efficacious in scrofulous and cutaneous diseases.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Esperence*, brother of *Quintillan*; *Saint Hilaire*, *Maximin* (Bishop), who distinguished himself at the council of *Nice*; *Chyrcan*, secretary to *Christina* of *Sweden*; *Thyraudot* a physician, who, in 1631, established the *Gazette de France*; he is called the father of the French press; the *Marquis de Ferrière*, *Gilbert*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholics forming part of the diocese of *Poitiers*. Protestants have a consistorial church at *Rouillé*.

This department is divided into five arrondissemens, viz.:—*Poitiers*, *Loudun*, *Chatellerault*, *Montmorillon*, *Civray*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Poitiers*. It is comprised in the twelfth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

POITIERS is one of the largest cities of France, but it is, at the same time, one of the least agreeable, and the least populous

of any in the kingdom. Its cathedral is a fine gothic building, but much too low for its size. The traditions of the city relate, that it was erected to the honour of St. Peter, and that it was founded on the very day he was crucified: others affirm, that St. Nicolas de Myrte, who lived 300 years after the Apostle Peter, claims that honour. In the year 1206, the following circumstance caused it to be reconsecrated, and dedicated to *Notre Dame la Grande*. A clerk of the town had promised to deliver the keys into the hands of the English, who were encamped before it; and at four o'clock in the morning, he hastened to the mayor, demanding the keys of the city, in order to permit an officer to execute a mission he had to fulfil, for which purpose he was immediately to repair to Philippe Auguste. The mayor, who always put the keys under his bolster, could not find them: alarmed at the circumstance, and suspecting treason, he rose, and summoned the garrison to arms. Having thus secured the tranquillity of the city, he repaired to the cathedral, to return thanks to the Almighty for this deliverance, and to supplicate the Virgin to use her influence that the keys might be restored to him. His surprise may be imagined, when, on raising his eyes to the statue, the lost keys were discovered in her hand. This miracle caused the name of the church to be changed to that of *Notre Dame la Grande*, and the canons of the chapter obtained the privilege of judging those cases which were to be decided on the anniversary of these two days; they had, besides this privilege, the power of liberating a prisoner. During half a century they continued in the enjoyment of this right, when, having set at liberty a gentleman confined for the debt of 2,200 livres, the creditor entered a protest against his liberation before the special court of judicature, which decided in favour of the creditor, and this sentence was subsequently confirmed by the parliament of Paris. The churches of St. Hilaire, of St. John, and St. Eudegonde, are worthy of attention. The heart of Aliénor, wife of Louis VII., is deposited in the former; the second contains the inside of Richard Cœur-de-Lion; and the third, the ashes of St. Radegonde, wife of Clotaire I. The church of Saint John was, indeed, the first erected in Poitiers, on the site, it is supposed, of a Roman mausoleum. About two centuries ago, a stone was found close to its foundations, bearing the following inscription: "*To the memory of Claudia Varenilla, daughter of the proconsul*"

Vasius." Near the city gate, called *de Pont Joubert*, there is an ancient monument, consisting of an immense stone, resting upon five pillars; it is called *Pierre levée*, and is considered a Pictish monument. It also contains the remains of a palace, built by Gallien; the aqueduct, which supplied it with water; and the ruins of a circus. The walks of Poitiers are exceedingly pretty, particularly that called *le parc de Blossac*, which is intersected by avenues of trees, and forms, on the east, a magnificent terrace. Between *Beauvois* and *Maupertuis* is the celebrated plain, immortalised in historic records, by the victory of Edward the Black Prince over John of France. Not far distant is the castle of Chauvigny, in which the Dauphin was placed, by his governors, during the battle.

The manufactures of Poitiers consist in linen, silks, and stuffs. Its environs produce corn, wines, and brandy.

Long. West $1^{\circ} 39' 12''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 34' 50''$. Eighty-seven leagues South-west from Paris.

CHATELLERAULT is famous for its cutlery. The road from this place to *Saint Savin* is exceedingly beautiful, through a fine forest; and in its environs are several vineyards of celebrity, but *nulle rose sans épines*. The country abounds in excellent vipers, which were formerly exported to Venice, to be converted into medicines.

SAINT SAVIN is situated in one of the prettiest valleys of Poitou, upon the banks of *la Gartempe*. This river is not navigable, and the height of its waters varies so much, that it has been found necessary to collect them in a dyke, that the mill of the town may be constantly kept at work. The following curious circumstance happened in this place on the day of what is called the great eclipse. One of the inhabitants, who was in the habit of bathing in a particular part of the river, at the foot of a rock, discovered, by chance, underneath it, a large excavation, upon a projecting point of which a person might find a dry seat at all times. Fatigued a little by swimming, the man placed himself upon this projection, intending to resume his amusement when refreshed; but, in the mean time, the eclipse began, and he was soon plunged in perfect darkness. Alarmed at the circumstance, he, however, preferred remaining where he was, rather than encounter the dangers that would beset him in an attempt to reach the shore; and when the eclipse passed away, he gladly hailed the

returning fight, and hastened to regain his home, where his escape and return was considered a miracle, and a mass was performed immediately, on the banks of the river, in token of gratitude for his deliverance, he having been twenty-four hours absent, and supposed drowned.

SECTION XIII.

ANCIENT PROVINCES OF AUNIS, SAINTONGE, AND ANGOUMOIS.

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF CHARENTE INFÉRIEURE
AND CHARENTE.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF CHARENTE INFÉRIEURE.



Abbaye de la Couronne.

This is a maritime department (W.), composed of *Saintonge* and *Angoumois*.

SOIL.—Near the sea coast the marshes produce excellent salt, yet the marshes are by no means profitable as to health; corn and wine, and brandy, however, prosper, and are objects of exportation in a small way.

RIVERS.—The principal of these are the *Gironde*, *Charente*, and the *Touvre*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Matheu*, founder of the religious order for the redemption of captives; *Anelotte*, *Du-Jarry*, *Dubreuil*, and *Colom*, to whom France is indebted for the introduction of vaccination; *Reaumur*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the Bishop of Rochelle. Its judicial judgment is attached to that of the *Cour Royale* of *Poitiers*, and it is comprised in the twelfth military division.

This department is divided into six arrondissements, viz., *La Rochelle*, *Saintes*, *Rochefort*, *Saint Jean Angely*, *Jonsais*, and *Moreunes*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

The ancient provinces of *Aunis* and *Saintonge* now constitute the department of *CHARENTE INFÉRIEURE*.

ROCHELLE.—The antiquity of this city is great; indeed, it is supposed to be the ancient *Portus Sanonum* mentioned by Ptolemy. Its siege in 1573 is deservedly renowned, but it has been already detailed in the History of Charles IX.; therefore we shall only observe, *en passant*, that it resisted twenty partial attacks, ~~tho' not~~ regular assaults; that it received thirty thousand cannon balls, and this at a period when man had not attained the perfection of "killing upon mathematical principles." The resistance of the Protestants was indeed extraordinary: the following instance of courage and presence of mind of one man in particular, deserves to be recorded. He was a native of the isle of *Rhé*, but his name has not been transmitted to posterity. A mill had been entrusted to his sole guardianship, when the enemy, anxious to be in possession of so desirable a spot, surrounded it; the soldier observed all their movements from his elevated situation, and immediately conceived the plan of inducing them to imagine it was really a place of great importance. He appeared first in one part, then in another, and kept up such a rapid fire, gave the word of command and his orders so audibly, and in different tones, that the besiegers thought the mill was full of soldiers. The owner of the mill, having observed the circumstance from a distance, gave signals as to direct the best mode of defence. Thus passed the night, but as day dawned the solitary soldier, foreseeing he must even-

usually submit, offered to capitulate; the Catholics consented, but what was their surprise when they discovered the captain and the garrison to be one and the same individual! The sequel of the tale is a disgrace to the victors,—they sent this brave man to the galleys, but fortunately he contrived to make his escape.

In 1622 Louis XIII. made a vain attempt to capture *Rochelle*; but when *Richelieu* took the management of affairs into his hands, the *Rochelois* sunk under the superior tactics of his great and mighty spirit. *Richelieu* caused the city to be surrounded so as to prevent any provision from being conveyed into it by land; and by erecting the famous mole at the mouth of the harbour, he prevented all foreign supplies. On the 10th of August, 1627, the siege commenced; and upon this occasion Guilton, the mayor of *Rochelle*, on his appointment, made the following declaration:—"Yes, I will be mayor, on condition that I shall be permitted to plunge this dagger into the breast of the first person who shall talk of surrendering; and I insist that it may be applied to the same purpose on myself, if I propose to capitulate. I demand that this dagger remain upon the table of this our place of council." During four months and eighteen days, the *Rochelois* kept to this resolution; but when famine daily thinned the number of the inhabitants, when shell fish and vegetables were no longer to be got, some one ventured to mention this circumstance to *Guilton*, to which he coolly replied, "It is sufficient that there be one left to shut the gates." But his infirmity was at length obliged to yield to the horrors which surrounded him: out of 15,000 souls there was now only left 3,000, for four-fifths had already perished by the sword or by famine. Louis XIII. and Cardinal *Richelieu* together entered the city in triumph, which shortly resounded with *te Deums* and *actions de grâce*, for the victory they had gained, intermingled with the mournful groans of the dying, and the shrieks of the living, as they gazed on the ghastly countenances of the beloved objects of their affection, sinking to the grave, the victims of famine. The fortifications of the city were afterwards destroyed, but in the reign of Louis XIV. they were rebuilt, under the eye of the celebrated *Vauban*. This city is situated at the bottom of a little gulf, and is built with much regularity; the streets are ornamented by a piazza, which makes an agreeable walk for foot passengers in all weathers. La

poste de l'Horloge forms, likewise, a very fine arcade; now that the middle pillar which supported it has been adroitly removed. The *Promenade du Mail* commands a very extensive prospect, both by sea and land. The isles of *Rhé*, *Aix*, and *Oleron*, are all to be seen from this delightful walk, which is supplied with seats; and on a fine clear evening, just before sun-set, nothing can be imagined more beautiful than this enchanting prospect, in which the ocean forms so considerable a feature; and insensible, indeed, must that heart be, which refuses to yield to the majestic fascination of this sublime and independent part of the works of the Creator. The *Rochelle* ladies are celebrated for their expressive eyes, soft flexible features, and that witchery of the human face which is irresistible.

It carries on a brisk trade in wine, brandy, salt, paper, cloths, serges, &c.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 2' 4''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 9' 43''$. One hundred and twenty leagues South-West from Paris.

The isle of *Rhé* is three leagues distant from *Rochelle*; it was known to the Romans, and they sent their malefactors, calling it, from this circumstance, *Insula Reorum*, (the isle of the condemned;) from whence, by corruption, it has its present name. There are two little towns, and four forts, erected by Vauban. The approach to this isle is difficult on the western extremity, where the rocks extend considerably into the sea. To prevent, in part, the evils resulting from this circumstance, a lighthouse has been erected, called *la Tour des Baléines*.

Aix is much nearer the Continent; this island is likewise well fortified.

The isle of *Oleron*, situated to the south of the two former, is much larger and more populous than either of them, though it contains but two towns: it has, also, its forts and fortifications, and is exceedingly fertile. Nature has placed around it numberless rocks and sand-banks, which make the navigation in its neighbourhood very dangerous; and the tower *de Chassiron* has been erected on the western coast, which goes by the name of *Savage*, so wild and dangerous is it. There are two lanterns placed one above the other on this tower or pharos, which are discernible at an immense distance. To the south, a number of buoys are placed, pointing out to mariners the safest parts for landing, in case of shipwreck; and two cannon are stationed

here likewise, to respond to any signal of distress. An accommodation has been provided for the pilots; in short, where nature has placed a danger, man has here provided assistance, an antidote to the best of his abilities,—but who can set bounds to the power and ravages of the ocean, but He who made it? The inhabitants of *Oleron* are clever architects, and such expert seamen, that Eleanor of *Guyenne* chalked out from the laws and regulations of their maritime police, that code called *Rollés d'Oleron*, which has since served as a foundation, or model, of the French maritime ordinances.

ROCHEFORT, which Colbert always called *la Ville d'Or*, from the immense sums which Louis XIV. expended in making it one of the four great naval depôts of his kingdom, as well as one of the most beautiful towns in France, is placed at the extremity of a small gulf. *Cherbourg* and *Brest* have been already described, and so far has *Rochefort*, when considered as a naval depôt. *Vauban* exhausted his skill in its fortifications; and its rampart, which nearly encircles the city, affords a beautiful promenade to the inhabitants. Even so lately as the year 1664, *Rochefort* contained only a chateau, surrounded by a few fishermen's huts; and these Louis XIV. bought, and in opposition to the opinion and wishes of his minister Colbert he drained the lands, and, in short, lavished upon it enormous sums; his comprehensive mind having, at a single glance, discerned the vast advantages its situation presented, and the result has proved that he judged rightly: yet, with all the advantages it possesses, it has one great drawback to human comfort,—it is very unhealthy. It has a cannon foundry, and employs many vessels in a cod-fishery. There is also a prison for the galley slaves.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 19' 34''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 2' 34''$. One hundred and twenty-seven leagues South-West from Paris.

In the neighbourhood of *Saintes*, formerly *Mediolanum*, there are the remains of a triumphal arch, which now forms one of the arches in a bridge over *La Charente*; this river has, of course, changed its course of late years. An amphitheatre, not much inferior to that of *Nîmes*, and the ruins of an aqueduct, and its situation, seem to prove that it was appropriated to the shows called *Naumachia*.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF CHARENTE.

This is an inland department (W.), consisting of ancient *Angoumois*, some parts of *Saintonge*, *Poitou*, and *Marne*.

SOIL.—The soil of this department is generally dry, calcareous, and burning. The hills, which are almost of an equal height, are composed of beds of shells, and the remains of marine bodies, placed sometimes in a horizontal position, sometimes in a vertical one. In the *arrondissement* of *Confolens* and of *Barbezieux*, on the road to *Bordeaux*, the *landes*, or heaths, are extensive: some attempts have been made to cultivate them, but without success; they are much intersected by stagnate waters: the few sheep which graze upon these wilds are valued at a franc a piece! There are, also, in this neighbourhood, many large ponds containing a variety of fish.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers in the *Charente* are these:—the *Charente*, the *Vienne*, the *Droze*, the *Tardouère*, the *Bandia*, the *Tourne*, and the *Né*, or *Naye*.

CANAL.—The canal of *Poitou* joins the *Charente* to the *Vienne* by the *Claire*.

MINES.—It contains mines of copper, antimony, lead, and iron; the two latter only are worked. There are, likewise, quarries of excellent freestone and lithographic stone.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Angoulême* there is a Society of Agriculture, of Arts and Sciences. There is also a Cabinet of Natural History, Physic, and of Chemistry.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Isabella de Taillefer*, wife of John of England, *Francis I.*, King of France; *Margaret of Valois*, Queen of Navarre; *Balzac*; *La Rochefoucauld*; *Madame de Montespan*; *Montaigne*; *L'Echelle*; *Gurnier Laboussière*; and *Rivaud*, to whom *Napoleon* entrusted the command of the *avant-garde* of the army of reserve in the memorable campaign of *Marengo*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of

• *Louise de Savoie*, Countess of *Angoulême*, returning, the 12th of Sept. 1494, from a walk in the park of *Cognac*, was overtaken in her journey by the pains of labour. The princess could not regain the chateau; she withdrew therefore under an elm in the park; and it was there and then that she gave birth to *Francis the First*.

Angoulême. The department forms the diocese of a bishopric, under the Archbishop of Bordeaux. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Jarnac*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Angoulême*, *Buffe*, *Comolens*, *Barbezieux*, *Cognac*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Bordeaux*; it is comprised in the twentieth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ANGOULÊME is the chief town in this department; it is situated on the Charente, but on such a progressively rising ground from the banks of the river, that it enjoys a pure, clear air, and commands a most extensive prospect over the river, though it is surrounded by rocks on the opposite side. It should seem that good springs of water were scarce in this part of France, for among the excellencies of Angoulême, good water for drinking is mentioned as one. The cathedral was founded by Clovis, after he had defeated and slain Alaric the Goth. It presents a curious medley of architecture, for as it has suffered much in the wars between the French and English, it has been repaired at many different times, and agreeably to the taste of as many different epochs. Its chief manufacture is in paper; besides which, it carries on a brisk trade in brandy, salt, cattle, wood, cloths, cards, &c. &c.

Long. East $10^{\circ} 10' 69''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 58' 57''$. One hundred and twenty-eight leagues South of Paris.

In the neighbourhood of this town is the celebrated plain of Jarnac, where the great Condé, one of the Protestant leaders, was assassinated by Montesquieu. The results of this battle have been given in the history of France, but the minutæ attending his death are too interesting to be omitted in this place.

The inclemency of the season had caused an immense desertion from the Catholic and Protestant armies, and the leaders of both parties were anxious to decide the contest before a further diminution of their forces should render such a proceeding impracticable. The Catholics, under the command of the Duke of Anjou, had marched in mass upon Chateaufort, and crossed the river upon a bridge they had constructed in the night. Coligny, commander-in-chief of the Protestants, sensible

of the inferiority of his numbers, and fearing to be surrounded, ordered a retreat; but Condé, in despair, and disdaining flight, assembled four hundred gentlemen, and having exhorted them to seek victory or death in the ranks of the enemy, they unanimously promised to share with him the danger and glory of such an enterprise. Condé had fallen from his horse on the preceding evening, and his arm was in a sling; while he was addressing his friends, the horse of the Duke of Rochefoucault reared and struck him on the thigh, which he broke. Condé, turning to the duke, calmly observed, "You see how dangerous an animal is a restive horse in the day of battle." Then resuming his address to his companions, he continued, "This accident will not impede my purpose: with my arm in a scarf, and my thigh broken, I will conduct you through the ranks of the enemy. You see, my brave companions in arms, how much I rely upon you; mutilated as I am, I have still sufficient strength left, since my courage is still unshaken, and yours will second it." At this moment Henry IV., then a youth, and his own son, approached, and wished to accompany him in his perilous and glorious undertaking; but Condé replied, "No, my children, retire; the army may to-day lose its chief, it is you who must replace him."

He then clapped spurs to his horse and followed by his companions, rushed into the thickest of the fight, where he performed wonders: his horse was at length killed under him, and Condé fell in the midst of his enemies; unable to rise, he still defended himself. At this critical moment, alone and disabled, for his companions had all fallen, the gallant Laveigne de Tressan advanced to his rescue with 150 men, but they only came to fall in heaps round him. Among the enemy Condé at length recognised a deserter of the Protestant cause, D'Argence, formerly his servant: he raised his visor, D'Argence recognised his master, bore him from the field and placed him under a tree in safety. Montesquieu passing shortly after, saw the wounded hero; and exclaiming, "kill, kill," he fired, and Condé fell. This atrocious murder was succeeded by an act no less atrocious: by the desire of the Duke of Anjou, the body was tied upon an ass, and led through the Catholic army, amidst the sarcasms and insults of the soldiers, in which their commander was not ashamed to join.

The following lines commemorated this infamous act:—

“ L’an mil-cinq-cent-soixante-neuf,
Entre Jarnac et Chateau-Neuf,
Fut porté mort sur une ânesse
Le grand ennemi de la messe.”

In the year 1770 a monument was raised to perpetuate the memory of this battle; upon which the following lines of Voltaire were engraven:—

“ O plaines de Jarnac ! O coup inhumain !
Barbare Montesquiou, moins guerrier qu’assassin !”

This monument was destroyed at the time of the revolution, but in 1824 the government intended to replace it.

VERTEUIL is a small town, but so delightfully situated, that the Counts of Rochefoucauld chose it as their dwelling place. *Anne de Pologne*, widow of one of these noblemen, entertained the Emperor Charles V. at this place; he was so much delighted with his reception, that he said,—“ Il n’avoit jamais été en maison qui sentit mieux sa grande vertu, honnêteté, et seigneurie que celle-là.” “By the bye, this emperor used to cite five wonders in France:—Paris, as a *world*; Orleans, as a *city*; Poitiers, as a *village*; Tours, as a *garden*; the *chateau* of the Counts of Rochefoucauld, as a *home*.”

Verteuil was formerly well fortified; and the following circumstance, which occurred in the fifteenth century, while it was in the possession of the English, is worth relating:—

The Duke of Bourbon was besieging it, when, finding he could make no impression on the outward works, he resolved to undermine it; and the Duke de Montferrand, the governor, having adopted the same means as a mode of defence, the two parties met, and a combat underground commenced. Bourbon, being informed of this circumstance, descended the mine, where he challenged to single combat the man whom he saw exhibiting the most desperate and bravest proofs of courage. They were each ignorant of the other’s rank; but one of Bourbon’s knights, uneasy at his master’s absence, joined him below, and there discovered to Montferrand that he was engaged with Bourbon. Upon this the governor (Montferrand) immediately ceased the combat, soliciting the honour of knighthood at the hands of so renowned a knight as Bourbon, and promising to deliver

up the place on the following day, which he accordingly did. It was then that the newly-made knight flung himself at the feet of Bourbon, who restored to him all the prisoners, made him a present of two horses, and conferred on him the order of *L'Ecu*.

In a village near Confolens, Madame de Montespan was born; and near Aubeterre are the remains of a castle, belonging formerly to Palrot Deméré, who assassinated the Duke of Guise.

Two basins, separated by a natural dike of rocks, and distinguished by the names of the *Dormant* and *Bouillant*, form the sources of the Touvre. The *Dormant* is extremely profound, and resembles, at all times, a mirror; but the waters, of the *Bouillant* appear boiling, throwing up globules of water with a sullen noise. The Touvre, when the waters of these two basins unite, is so fresh and clear, that after its union with the Charente, the two rivers can be distinguished at a great distance, flowing side by side without mingling their waters. Yet during the summer months, the Touvre is sometimes troubled; and, what is very singular, this change is not produced by rain. During the other seasons, the Touvre preserves nearly the same smooth and limpid course. It is supposed that the subterraneous reservoirs are so vast and so profound, that the waters can deposit their slime in the basins before they form the Touvre. In its course, this river is no less singular; in the summer, its waters are covered with grass, reeds, and a variety of aquatic plants, in the middle of which puffins, and other birds, build their nests. At the first frost, all these plants disappear, and the ice is then frequented by wild ducks, and birds of passage. The river abounds with trout of various kinds, and eels. The gulf of the Touvre is formed like an inverted cone, the bottom of which can be seen in fine weather; it is composed of peaked and broken rocks. There is a legend related in the *Délices de la France*, of which the following is the substance:—A certain queen of France, who was anxious to know from whence this *Dormant* received its waters, caused a man, who was under sentence of death, to be put in a cage, lighted with flambeaux, which was then lowered into the gulf. After he had remained there some time, the cage was drawn up. His report was little satisfactory. He declared that he had seen nothing but rocks, and huge fishes; and that, if he had not been brought up just at that moment, he should have died with cold and fright.

SECTION XIV.

ANCIENT PROVINCES OF GUIENNE AND GASCOGNE,
CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF GIRONDE, LANDES, DORDOGNE,
LOT ET GARONNE, GERS, HAUTES-PYRÉNÉES, LOT, TARN ET
GARONNE, AVEYRON.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF GIRONDE.

THIS Department, which is maritime (S.W.), is constituted of a portion of *Guienne*.

SOIL.—The soil is fertile, in the North of the department, upon the banks of the *Garonne* and the *Dordogne*. To the South-west extend extensive *landes*, or heaths, and the whole of the coast is bordered with dunes or sands, which are dangerous in some places, and extremely difficult at all times; and woe betide the daring stranger, who shall attempt to traverse these *dunes* without a guide! So impracticable, indeed, is it to profit by the advantages which a maritime department generally possesses, that there is but one port absolutely upon the ocean, that of *Tête de Buch*. *Bordeaux*, *Blaye*, and *Puillaud*, upon the *Gironde*, in fact, are ports of great importance, but they are not sea-ports. Marshes, of great extent, border the *Gironde* from *Bordeaux* to its mouth; in some places extending two leagues from the banks of the river. Formerly *Bordeaux* was surrounded by them, but much of this waste land has been drained, and converted into arable land, yet *Bordeaux* is still infected by the marshes on the southern banks of the *Gironde*. The salt-marshes at *Lesparre* are very profitable.

RIVERS.—Five navigable rivers traverse this department, viz.:—the *Dronne*, the *Isle*, the *Dordogne*, the *Garonne*, and the *Gironde*, which falls into the ocean, and which is united to the Mediterranean by the *Garonne* and the canal of *Languedoc*.

QUARRIES.—There are many quarries of freestone; those at *Roque*, *Boud*, and *Langoiran*, are most esteemed. There are no establishments for mineral waters in the *Gironde*, but at the *Tête de Buch* there are excellent sea-baths.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—A Royal Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Belles-Lettres; an Athenæum; Societies of Commercial Emulation, of Medicine; Cabinet of Natural History, of Antiquities, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Montesquieu, Montaigne, Bertrand de Gouth*, Pope by the name of *Clement V.*, the famous *Capitai de Buch*, the *Black Prince, Richard II.* of England, *De Sèze*, who defended Louis XVI.; *De Cazes*, minister of Louis XVIII., and *Peyronnet*, minister of Charles X.; *Magendie, Carle Vernet*, a host of barristers, literati, poets, musicians, &c.

RELIGION.—Catholic; it forms part of the diocese of *Bordeaux*. The Protestants possess three consistorial churches, besides temples; and there is a consistorial synagogue of the Jews, at *Bordeaux*.

This department is divided into six *arrondissemens*, viz.—*Bordeaux, Bazas, Blaye, la Réole, Lesparre, Libourne*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Bordeaux*. It is comprised in the eleventh military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

• **BOURDEAUX** extends along the North^S side of the Garonne, in the form of a horse-shoe, the most western point of which is occupied by the *fauxbourg des Chartrons*. The port is about two leagues in length, and, in some parts, 3,000 feet in breadth. Of its principal buildings, the Exchange, its two theatres, and its two churches of *Saint André* and *Saint Michel*, are the most conspicuous: the two steeples of the former are each 625 feet high, and that of the latter was the highest in France, until its top fell in a hurricane, A. D. 1766. This city also contains other churches worthy of notice, the Archbishop's palace, and an *Hôtel de l'Intendance*.

Its principal theatre is considered a master-piece of architecture; and, as it stands detached from any other building, it presents a magnificent object to the eye of the spectator. It is surrounded, on its four sides, by a portico; the front presents a peristyle of twelve Corinthian columns, surmounted by a balustrade and twelve statues. The interior of this theatre is so admirably arranged, so magnificently adorned, by painting and sculpture, and so well lighted, that these joint perfections produce a magic effect, and render it one of the wonders in France. It stands

upon the site of a monument erected by Lascivus Canilius, and consecrated by him to the *tutèle d'Auguste*. The columns of this monument were so lofty, that they commanded a view of the whole city. In the reign of Louis XIV., Richelieu, being governor, received orders from the court to remove the ruins of this temple, and cut down a fine avenue of trees, in order to lay open the approaches to the *Château Trompette*, which is now no more, and to lay the foundation of a theatre, of the very first description, upon the very spot where the temple stood. He met with the most determined opposition in his projects: the avenue of trees formed a favourite walk of the *Bordelois*, but *Richelieu* was not to be turned aside from his purpose by the arguments of the citizens, or the threats of the gentlemen of the long robe. One dark night, he collected an immense number of work-people, and when the morning dawned on the astonished inhabitants, every tree lay prostrate, its leafy honours drooping, and soiled by the earth which had so lately given it strength, colour, and beauty, which has lived its short day, and is now no more. The fountains *d'Audège et de Figueras*, which date their origin so far back as the time of Augustus, still remain; besides which, there is a building called *Porte Baye*, of the same date, which has escaped the ravages of time, of the Goths, the Vandals, the Saracens, and the Normans.

• Bourdeaux, vante ton monument ;
 • Tel de la vieille Rome était le fondement.
 • Plus auguste est la Porte Basse
 • Que le haut portail d'un palais.
 • Son antique et superbe masse
 • Voit les siècles couler, sans s'ébranler jamais.

The palace of Gallien, which was never completed, is still to be seen; but its two principal portals are all that remain. In the *fauxbourg Saint Surin* there are still some remains of an amphitheatre, at least of its arena: the dens, in which the animals were kept, are still in existence. The arena itself is now covered with beautiful turf. *Le Cachet de Néron*, also, is interesting to the antiquary; and there remains proof that, in days of *ould lang syne*, Bourdeaux was, as it now is, a place of considerable importance and beauty.

The name of Bourdeaux is not derived from the junction of the words *bord* and *eaux*, as is generally supposed, but from two

small rivers, viz., the *Bourde* and the *Jalle*, from which it received the appellation of *Burdigala*; by corruption, Bourdeaux. This city was appointed, by Augustus, to be the capital of the second Aquitaine. Its college of *Guienne* was then so famous, that several of its professors were called to Rome and Constantinople; and one of them, *Ausone*, the Latin poet, became consul.

The port, *la Place Royale*, the *Jardin public*, and the avenues of *Tourny*, all afford the most delightful walks. The *Jardin public* served as a model, it is said, for those of the *Thuileries*. The port, at the end of which is the Chartrons, is, perhaps, the most interesting of all these walks, from the lively and varied picture which it presents. The number of vessels, from all nations, which are here assembled, as well as the numerous merchants which frequent it, the animation, the life which this scene offers, present, to the busy, a continual source of amusement; but the contemplative mind must elsewhere seek for enjoyment. There are many Jews in the city, and the House of *Gradis* has, more than once during the last century, relieved the wants of the different governments that have ruled France. This circumstance is sufficient to declare the wealth of the house; but one among its owners has other claims upon mankind, than those which simply arise from the circumstance of its having assisted France as a nation. When one of the elder branches of the house was near his end, he assembled his relations and heirs around his bed, and thus addressed them:—"In dividing my fortune among you, I have reserved 100,000 crowns for my own particular disposal; this sum is entirely composed of bills, given to me by those whom it has been my lot to save from ruin by timely assistance: permit me to carry with me to the tomb, the sweet reflection that they are free." As he said this, he threw the bills into the fire, and shortly afterwards his soul took its flight to those benevolent regions, where we are permitted to hope that his virtues might be rewarded by the approbation of his Creator. In the *Fauxbourg les Chartrons* are the wine-cellars, for brandy and the wine called *vin de Bourdeaux*, (claret.) The cleanliness which is remarked in these cellars is truly singular, and is, indeed, carried to such excess, that it might be construed into fastidiousness, were it not known that the wines of this part of the world are exceedingly susceptible and liable to injury from coming in contact with any air that is not pure. There is, likewise, here, an immense mill,

which grinds corn for the whole population. The engineer who erected this mill, had, apparently, an insuperable difficulty to overcome,—the lack of water; but, by means of a reservoir, this difficulty has been surmounted, and the same water which turns the mill at the ebb, has been made to supply it at the flood tide. The construction of this mill cost 1,500,000 francs; but the bridge over the Garonne cost 20,000,000. It is considered as one among the finest in Europe.

The beautiful bridge of Bourdeaux consists of seventeen arches of masonry, hewn stone and bricks, resting on sixteen stone piers, and two stone abutments. The seven arches in the middle are of equal dimensions, and are eighty-seven feet in diameter. The opening of the first and the last arches is sixty-eight feet, and the rest are of intermediate dimensions. The vaults have the form of arcs of a circle, whose rise or height is equal to a third part of their cord. The thickness of the pier is thirteen feet, nine inches. The tympanum, or interval between two arches, is adorned with the royal cipher, encircled with a crown of oak, and engraven on a ground of bricks. Above the arches is a fine bold cornice; and two pavilions, adorned with porticoes and columns of the Doric order, are built at each extremity of the bridge.

The parapet is five feet; the width of each foot-path eight feet, two inches; the width of the road thirty-two feet, four inches, and the whole width of the bridge forty-eight feet, eight inches. A slight declivity, commencing at the fifth arch on each side, and descending towards the banks, facilitates the union of the road-way with quays, and allows the rain-water to flow off. The injury, however, produced by rains, will be more certainly prevented by an ingenious arrangement, of which no other building presents an example. The imposing mass of contiguous vaults, already mentioned, and in appearance so heavy, is bound together interiorly by a multitude of galleries, similar to the apartments of cloisters, which communicate with each other, from one end of the bridge to the other. By means of these vaults, the engineer can, at any time, examine the condition of the arches below the road-way, and it will be easy to keep them up and repair them without interrupting the passage of carriages. There exists even under each foot-path of the road-way a continuous gallery, in the form of an aqueduct, by which the springs from the hills, on the

right bank of the Garonne, may be conveyed and distributed through the city.

In order to give an idea of the extent of this bridge, the following table has been drawn up, shewing its magnitude in comparison with some of the principal bridges in Europe.*

Names of Bridges.	Length between Abutments.	Width between Parapets.		No. of Arches.	Diameter of Arches.		Thickness of Piers.	
	<i>Eng. ft.</i>	<i>ft.</i>	<i>in.</i>		<i>ft.</i>	<i>in.</i>	<i>ft.</i>	<i>in.</i>
Bordeaux, over Garonne	1597	48	8	17	86	11	13	9
Waterloo over Thames	1237	42	0	9	118	0	20	0
Tours, over the Loire . .	1424	47	10	15	80	0	16	0
Guillotière, over Rhone	1870	24	11	18	very unequal		unequal	
Dresden, over the Elbe	1447	34	3	18	54	9	32	10

Great as this bridge is in point of magnitude, yet it is neither by the number nor the size of its arches that it recommends itself to the notice of the professional engineer.

The depth of the river, the rapidity of its currents, and particularly the instability of its bed, were the real difficulties which called forth the talents of the engineer; and in these respects, the bridge of Bordeaux will not suffer by a comparison with any other work of the same kind.

"The Garonne has a depth of twenty, twenty-five, and, in some places, of about thirty-five feet, and twice every day the flux and reflux of the sea raise its waters sixteen, and even twenty feet high; and its currents, in both directions, have often a velocity of more than ten feet in a second. This river flows over a sandy and muddy bottom, which is easily displaced, and which collects in banks in different parts of its course."

"In order to found such a building upon a soil of such consistency, 250 piles of fir-wood were driven in as the foundation of each pier. After they had penetrated the ground from twenty-six to thirty-three feet, they were all cut over on a level, about thirteen feet below the low water of the river. A large boat, or

* Full drawings and descriptions of the bridges of Tours, La Guillotière, and Dresden, will be found in Mr. Telford's article on Bridge, in the Edinburgh Encyclopædia.

floating caisson, with a flat bottom, and of a pyramidal form, received the first row of stones of the pier; and when this was, as it were, thrown down in its place, the workmen descended in diving-bells, and made the caisson rest on the piles destined to bear it. A general pavement, consisting of loose stones, covered the bed of the river in the direction of the arches. These stones, enveloped and agglutinated by the mud which collects between them, form a bed impenetrable to the corrosive action of the waters, and insure the permanence of the bridge." Such is the account given in the eighth number of the *Edinb. Journal of Science*.

The commerce of Bourdeaux is very extensive in wines, brandy, vinegar, plums, honey, pitch, &c. &c. It also fits out many vessels to the whale fisheries.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 54' 14''$; lat. $44^{\circ} 50' 12''$. One hundred and fifty-eight leagues South-west from Paris.

LIBOURNE is the place where the elder Talbot so gallantly met his fate, at the advanced age of eighty. He was carried in a litter to give his orders to his soldiers, and having desired his son to quit the field, the latter replied, like the son of so brave a sire, "that he could appreciate no glory equal to that of dying with his father." The sequel is too well known. Both father and son found a bed of honour in the field of battle. At *Cenizas*, Henry IV., on the 25th of October, 1587, gained a complete victory over his enemies, and among the prisoners were the Duke *de Joyeuse* and *Château Regnard*: the latter Henry singled out, exclaiming, "*Rends-toi, Philistin.*"

BLAYE is the only important place upon the *Gironde*. It is protected by the forts *du Medoc* and *du Pâté*; the former is on the opposite shore, the latter on an island. *Blaye* is very ancient; it is spoken of by Ptolemy; and the poet *Ausone* mentions it in the third century, as *Blaye la Guerrière*; besides which, the renowned and *preux chevalier Roland*, nephew of Charlemagne, was its lord; and after the unfortunate battle of *Roncevalles*, his uncle caused his body to be embalmed and wrapped in silks, having his *Durandal* at his head, and his *Olifant* at his feet. It was carried by two mules, and brought to *Blaye*, where it was buried, armed cap-a-pié. The Duchess of Berri was, in 1832, confined here, after her capture at Nantes. All foreign

vessels going up the river are obliged to deposit their arms at this place.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 12'$; lat. $45^{\circ} 7'$.

About eleven leagues from Blaye is to be seen *la tour de Cordouan*, a lighthouse, placed at the mouth of the river Gironde. It is 600 feet high, and is composed of the three principal orders of architecture. On the top is an immense iron reservoir (*réchaud*), capable of containing 225 pounds of coals, which burn all night, and throw a strong light all over the adjoining coast. The foundations of this lighthouse were laid A.D. 1584, by a celebrated architect, called *Louis de Fair*.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF LANDES.

This is a maritime department (S.W.), composed of a part of *Guienne*.

SOIL.—The soil is principally composed of sands, which are along the coast, moveable. This department is, indeed, one vast extended plain, presenting the appearance of an evergreen surface from the heaths and furze which cover it, and the plantations of dwarf oak, which, with much difficulty and care, at a certain distance take root in the light soil.

FORESTS of fir extend along the sea-coast from Bourdeaux to Bayonne.

RIVERS.—These are the *Adour* and the *Midouze*.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Dax* there is an establishment for visitors, who repair thither to drink the waters.

REMARKABLE PERSON.—*Pierre de Marsin*.

RELIGION.—Catholic, part of the diocese of *Aire*.

This department is divided into three arrondissements, viz.:—*Mont de Marsan*, *Saint Sever*, and *Dax*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Pau*, and it forms part of the eleventh military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MONT MARSAN.—This town is situated on the river *Midouze*, in that part of the department called *Chalosse*, which contains also the towns of *Dax*, *Aire*, and *St. Sever*. *Les Landes* (the heaths), properly speaking, extend along the sea-coast from the environs of *Bourdeaux* unto *Bayonne*. They produce buck-wheat, resin,

Ork, and honey; and *la Chalosse*, which is separated from them by the rivers *la Midouze* and *l'Adour*, produces wine, corn, and fruits; these would be very abundant, were it not that they are frequently cut off by violent hail-storms. The soil of *les Landes* is, in the summer season, composed of black moving sands, which the sudden gusts of wind, in a dry season, whirl into the air, to the danger of such persons as are not, like the natives, raised above its immediate effects by stilts. In the winter, on the contrary, these sands are transformed into marshes, so unstable near the sea-shore, as to be perfectly impassable. The habitations of *les Landais* are built of a yellow earth, and roofed in with briars. Their furniture is rude, and made of the pine and the oak. One or two earthen pans form their cooking apparatus; and a heap of sheep-skins, spread on the ground, serve for bed and covering. On Sundays and holidays, which they religiously observe, although there is no resident priest among them, they indulge themselves with a glass of wine. On these occasions, men, women, and children, repair to the *cabaret*, (which scarcely deserves to be translated into *public house*), and there they amuse themselves with *music and dancing*. Some one sings a loud and noisy song, which is seconded by a clapping of hands, accompanied by a little "*wry-necked fife*." The young people dance *la farandole* to these harmonious sounds, marking the time by their gestures as well as their steps. Their ordinary fare consists of a piece of *cruchade*, a kind of paste made of maize and honey, which the good wife places ready on a plate for every member of the family, on his return from work; sometimes a bit of broiled bacon is added, as a peculiar luxury. The *Landais* are exceedingly hospitable, and are willing to share their humble morsel with those who have not the means of procuring food for themselves.

It is not surprising that these people should be superstitious, since, from their isolated situation, they are deprived of any intercourse with their fellow-creatures: they have no one to enlighten their minds, no one to give them any instruction in religion; and so seldom is it that a priest is seen among them, that the prayers for the dead are often repeated by the oldest woman who is within a convenient distance. Their mourning for the master of the family lasts twelve months:—the men wrap themselves in a capuchon, or long cloak, and the women cover their

heads with a black cloth; and the two earthen pans, which constitute the kitchen furniture, are likewise veiled during the year of mourning. They believe in ghosts, in witchcraft, and *loup-garoux*, (wier-wolf, or wolf-men,) and, like all superstitious and timid people, they delight, on the long winter evenings, in relating stories which terrify the listeners into an awful, witching silence. The mode of contracting their marriages is this:—the young man repairs to the house of the parents whose daughter he wishes to marry; he is invited to supper; towards the conclusion of the repast, the girl appears, bearing in her hand the *dessert*, which decides the fate of the lover; if she place walnuts before him, he is to consider his offer rejected; but if she present to him wine, he may conclude that he is agreeable in the eyes of the lady. The day following this betrothing, the young girl, accompanied by her mother, goes to visit her relations and friends, carrying with her a large empty basket, into which every one puts something,—either eggs, flax, linseed,—in short, whatever the basket will hold, and which is within their power to put into it. The day preceding the marriage, the future husband assembles his friends, and thus accompanied, he proceeds to the bride's house: having knocked at the door, the nearest relation of the young girl opens to him, and presents the oldest woman of the house, but she is put aside by the gallant, and he demands her *who has been promised to him*. The girl, who is seldom more than fourteen years of age, then advances to her lover, and gives him a flower, and she, in return, receives a sash, which he has the privilege of tying round her waist. The next day, the wedding is celebrated with much simplicity, after which the newly-married couple repair to their own house, if they have one; but if the husband seek a home under the roof of his wife's parents, he finds the yoke of a plough at the door; if, on the contrary, the young woman accompanies her husband to the house of her father-in-law, a broom is presented to her at the threshold. The *Landais* are mostly shepherds; and they rear, with much care, that little industrious insect, the bee, for the *Landes*, in many parts, abound with wild aromatic plants. They have also contrived, with much labour and difficulty, to plant the fir and other resinous trees, which, while young, are supported by props, until they attain sufficient strength to resist the tempestuous wind, that comes rushing along the heaths with much violence. There

are some spots enlivened by the heath and sweet broom, which flourish, and afford fine pasturage for their sheep. One class of the inhabitants is called *resineurs*: these are furnished with a hatchet and a long pole, notched at certain distances, by which they climb the trees, and chop off the branches, or make incisions in them, from which the resin exudes, and flows down into pits dug at the bottom of the tree.

The unhealthiness of this country is so great, that the inhabitants are old at forty, and they seldom attain a great age. They are dull and melancholy, and this is the natural consequence of the solitary life they lead. Mounted on his high stilts, a man traverses at a rapid pace, and with much agility, his extensive plains, striding over ditches or heaps of furze, without turning out of the direct road. When he arrives at the spot where his sheep are to pasture, he places a long stick, which he carries for the purpose, to the middle of his back, and upon this he leans, while he employs himself in knitting. Those who live near the Pyrénées prepare great quantities of charcoal, which they carry, sometimes, into Spain: Their costume will be best described by the accompanying engraving.



Inhabitants of the Landes.

The love of his native soil is inherent in man, and this feeling is more strongly exemplified in the inhabitants of such countries

as *les Landes*, than among those who revel in the luxuries of happier and more fertile climes. The poor *Landais* is a striking example of this *amor patriæ*; many instances are related in which, when transferred to proud and wealthy cities, or a more luxuriant country, he has pined for his barren health and mud cottage, and has absolutely died, before the natural termination of his days, of the *maladie du pays*.

But to return to *Mont de Marsan*, which is the principal town of this department. It was founded by *Pierre, Vicomte de Marsan*, in 1140. The canal *des Landes* greatly contributes to its prosperity. The pride of its inhabitants divides them into two distinct classes, which never have any personal or friendly communication with each other, unless circumstances absolutely compel them.

Long. West 3° 4'; lat. 44°. One hundred and ninety-two leagues South-west from Paris.

AIRE is a small town, in the neighbourhood of which are the ruins of a castle built by Alaric II.

SAINT LEVE is famous for its bull-fights and the pride of its inhabitants, both of which, as well as many of their customs, they derive from their ancestors, the *Spaniards*. They are so quick to take offence, that they have acquired the surname of *Têtes de sable*.

DAX is seated on the *Adour*, not more than fifteen feet above the level of the water; the consequence is, that in heavy rains and storms, which are so frequent in this part of France, the country and its towns are often overflowed. *Dax* possesses mineral waters, excellent for curing palsy and rheumatism. A vast basin in the middle of the town receives these waters, and the inhabitants sometimes use them for making their bread. Some persons attribute to this too frequent application of these hot waters, the sickly appearance of the *Dacquois*; yet they live to a good old age, and the women, though pale, are very handsome.

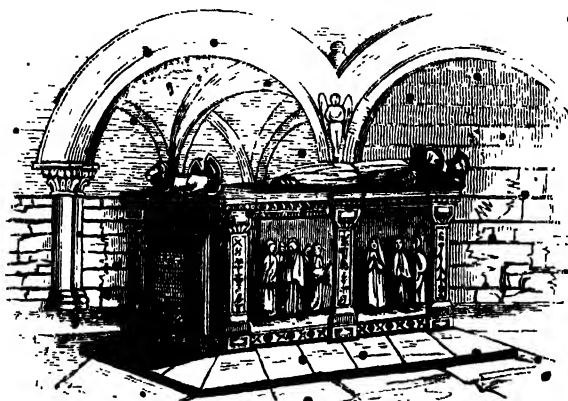
In the time of the Romans this town was called *Urbsaquensis*; and, according to their usual custom, wherever mineral waters were found, they erected baths. The inhabitants attribute to this luxurious, as well as warlike, people, a curious custom, which they call *combats des pots cassés*. A wooden fort is constructed in the *Adour*, and there two champions, mobled up in a helmet and cuirass, bearing a shield on their arms, drive back eight valiant heroes who attack them from a boat. The knights of the

fort sling, with all their might, seconded by all their agility, earthen pots and pans at their enemies, while the besiegers return the compliment by hurling baked earthen grenades against the fort and its defenders. This game may certainly have its origin in the *naumachiæ* of the Romans.*

Long. West $3^{\circ} 23' 16''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 42' 19''$. One hundred and eighty-eight leagues South-west from Paris.

Near this city, in the village of Bastennes, there is a peculiar kind of earth, which, if mixed with wood, burns as well as turf or bitumen; while, if it be employed in building, it will form a hard cement, impenetrable to water and the injuries of the weather.

—DEPARTMENT OF DORDOGNE.



Monument du Duc de Biron.

This is an inland department (S.W.), composed of portions of *Perigord*, and *Agenois*, *Limousin*, and *Angoumois*.

SOIL AND ASPECT OF THE COUNTRY.—The department is intersected by many barren hills and precipitous heights; the former are occasionally enriched by the vine and woods; but, generally speaking, the soil is unproductive, in some parts it is absolutely bare; in others there are whole fields of the yellow broom, and

* The Gauls set fire to the camp of one of Cæsar's generals, by throwing upon the tents balls of baked earth, a species of red-hot shot.

woods of chestnut trees; the valleys are narrow and unfruitful, not unfrequently flooded by the storms which are so general in this country. Those on the banks of the Dordogne, and the other principal streams, form an exception to this observation, where corn, maize, and vegetables, flourish luxuriantly; but these are, like the green spots or isles of the desert, few and far between. The soil, which is dry and unfertile, reposes upon a calcareous foundation.

MOUNTAINS.—The country is intersected by hills, the highest of which are the *Daglon*, *Dôme*, and *Perillac*.

RIVERS.—The Dordogne, Vézère, Isle, Dronne, and the Drot, are the principal.

MINES.—The iron mines of this department are productive, and the metal particularly fine; copper, lead, cadmium, manganese, &c. There are also some quarries of marble and alabaster, slate, mill-stone, granite, &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are several mineral springs in this department; those of *Bachelrie* and *Houssons* are much frequented.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—At *Perigueux* there are Societies of Agriculture, Sciences and Arts; a School for Drawing, a Botanic Garden, a Mineralogical Collection, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The families of *Talleyrand*, *Taillefer*, *Gontaut Biron*, *De Pons*, *Fénélon*, &c. &c.; many famous troubadours, such as *Arnaud de Moreuil*, *Aymery de Sablat*, *Geraud de Salignac*, &c. *Beaupuy*, *Dumesnil*, *Brantome*, *Laqrte*, *Montaigne*, &c., were all natives of this department.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz. *Perigueux*, *Rontron*, *Sarlat*, *Bergerac*, *Riberac*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. The Protestants have two consistorial churches, upon which depend six pastors. There are, besides these, ten chapels, two Bible Societies, one Missionary Society, two Tract Societies, and seven Protestant schools.

CHIEF TOWNS.

PERIGUEUX is a small ill-built town: the streets are crooked; and, were it not for the beautiful walks beyond its walls, and the savoury *Perigueux patés* that are made within them, the traveller would scarcely think *Perigueux* worthy of his notice.

The walks in the *Jardin Public*, the *Triangle*, and *Tourney*, are very fine.

Perigueux is not celebrated for any manufacture in particular, but for an effort to excel in many. Its ancient name was *Vesonna*, a Gaulish town, and in its neighbourhood there are still some military remains attributed to that people; hatchets, and other implements of war of an antique form, have been found in its vicinity. Under the Romans, *Perigueux* was one of the richest and most flourishing cities of the empire; there are also the remains of an amphitheatre, capable of containing twenty-four thousand spectators, public baths, and an ancient temple of Mars. It has been the seat of war in former times between the Romans, the Gauls, the Goths, the Saracens, and the Normans, and in later times between the English and the French; and, at a still later period, it was the scene of many a sanguinary conflict between the Leaguers and the Calvinists. The cathedral, called *Eglise de Saint Front*, was erected in the fourth century.

Long. $1^{\circ} 36' 41''$; lat. $45^{\circ} 11' 10''$. One hundred and sixteen leagues South-west from Paris.

BRANTOME.—This town is pleasantly situated in a little island formed by the *Dronne*; it stands at the foot of a hill: on the summit of this hill there is an old abbey, formerly belonging to a community of Benedictine monks. The chapel and the steeple are partly of Gothic, and partly Saxon architecture, and exceedingly beautiful. Tradition relates that Charlemagne was its founder. On his return from Gascony, reposing himself near a grotto, from whence the Druids had pronounced their oracles, he resolved to obliterate, if possible, the remembrance of their cruel religion, and for this purpose erected a church of peace in its neighbourhood. The historian Brantôme possessed this abbey in *commendam*, whither he retired after the battle of Jarnac, and here he composed a part of his celebrated works.

There are many Druidic remains near this town: among these, the *Pierre Levée* is one of the most conspicuous. This *dolmen* consists of a table, fourteen feet long, five broad, and three and one-twelfth of thickness; it is supported by three stones about eight feet high. The rocking stone of *Saint Etienne le Droux* can be put in motion by a small touch. The tumuli of the Celts are also numerous; that called *la tombelle de la*

Vigerie, near *Saint Aquilin*, is thirty feet in circumference at its base. There are many others of the like description; that at *Pontaux* is flat at the top, and sufficiently extensive for the farmers to make use of it as a threshing floor.

MUCIDAN.—This town was highly prized by the English, while they had possession of *Guienno*, and they bestowed no common pains to fortify it; but *Du Guesclin*, nevertheless, made himself master of it. *BERGERAC*, in this neighbourhood, is famous for its white wines, which are sent to *Holland*, and its red wines, which are exported to *America*.

SAINT CYPRIEN is built at the foot of a hill, beyond and above which rise a number of pointed rocks.

BUGUE is seated in the midst of gardens richly streaked with apple-trees and vives, smiling meadows, and arable lands. The hospital is the only public edifice that requires a passing remark. *Bugue* carries on a brisk trade, to which its proximity to the confluence of the rivers *la Vézère* and the *Dordogne* greatly contributes. A short distance from the north of the town, an abundant spring bursts like a torrent from a calcareous rock, and immediately forms a stream, which, in its course, is employed in turning many mills. There is, in this neighbourhood, likewise, a profound abyss, called *trou de Pomeysac*. There are many silly stories related respecting it, but the truth is simply this:—a man of the name of *Pomeysac* was thrown into it by some brigands; and as it had occasionally happened after this, that several persons had shared the like fate, the inhabitants complained to the *intendant* of the province, who gave orders that the abyss should be covered in, since it was impossible to fill it up; it was therefore vaulted over, but, from an error in the construction of the roof, it gave way; a second was then constructed, consisting of three roofs one over the other, each resting upon the interior projections of the rock.

Not far from this place the curious traveller may see the finest grotto in France, called *Grotte de Miremont*; the entrance to it is on the side of a barren hill; the passage is at first very narrow, and from the entrance to its extremity is 3,270 feet long, and 13,020 feet altogether, if its different ramifications; and a traveller who penetrates to its greatest extent, and traverses all its windings, will have travelled the distance of two leagues.

It is dangerous to penetrate this subterraneous passage with

out a guide. Not very long ago, three workmen, having entered this grotto without a guide, perished in it, the victims of their imprudence. The accident was discovered by their dog, who, having at last found his way out, placed himself at the entrance of the grotto, where, by his howlings and his restless impatience when any one approached the grotto, he excited curiosity, and the bodies of the men were thus discovered.

The stalactites, crystallizations, petrified shells, columns, pyramids, of the most curious shapes and beauty, form its sides; while the roof, composed of solid rock, combine to make this *Grotte de Miremont* one of the most remarkable of its kind.

SARLAT, which is now an insignificant town, was in ancient times one of the celebrated seats of Druidical power; its school of medicine was resorted to from all parts of Gaul, and after the invalid received his cure, he repaired to the top of a mountain, still called *Druille*, to offer sacrifices to the god of medicine. The soil, for some miles round this town, is so varied, as to form the most striking contrasts, until that too at very short distances. In some parts it presents the aspect of a barren desert, consisting of sandy plains covered with briars, bare rocks, and the melancholy juniper; suddenly, a smiling country displays all the luxuriance which nature and cultivation combined can produce in a rich soil. Then again, rugged rocks, crowned by blasted pines, that seem to have outlived the storms of ages, burst upon the amazed traveller, who, as he pursues his solitary journey, where nothing bright meets his eye but the lichen and moss which here and there enliven the prospect in green brilliant patches, is delighted all at once, on abruptly turning a rock, to see before him an extensive forest, consisting of the holm, the oak, and Spanish chesnut. In the valleys of this varied country, the view is confined to a small space; but on climbing the steep rocks and hills, the most extraordinary prospect presents itself. From *Vézère* to *Montignac*, the road is beautiful beyond description; on the contrary, it is almost impossible to portray the gloomy solitude which on all sides meets the eye of the traveller, as he journeys from *Sarlat* to *Miremont*. The valleys of the *Dordogne* and the *Vézère*, which are open to the west and south-west wind, are exposed to storms and tempests, more particularly from being placed between two powerful conductors, the mountains of *Auvergne* to the east, and those of *Limousin*

to the north-east. Not only the form of these hills, which is that of a sugar loaf, but their metallic structure, renders them powerful conductors; and hence it is, that this part of the country is often assailed by terrific storms of hail, rain, and thunder, not unfrequently accompanied by water-spouts and hurricanes, which are so violent as to level whole forests, to sweep away the vineyards, destroy the corn, and of a blooming country to make a desert. Add to this, that the torrents from the mountains, precipitating themselves from rock to rock, on reaching the valley, sometimes force themselves a passage even through the solid rock, and completely change the face of the country.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF LOT ET GARONNE.

This is an inland department (S.W.), composed of a part of *Quercy* and *Gascogne*.

SOIL.—The valleys through which the Lot and Garonne flow, are rich and fertile; but the hills, which are of a chalky nature, and the valleys between them, are, generally speaking, barren and unfruitful in many parts: towards the west, there is a small extent of the country occupied by the *landes*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Du Bartas*, *Le Franc de Pompi-
gnan*, *Jean de la Valette*, Grand Master of Malta; General *Doumère*, &c.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz., *Agen*, *Néruc*, *Marmande*, *Villeneuve d'Agen*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Agen*, and it forms part of the twentieth military division.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, depending on the diocese of *Agen*. The Protestants have four consistorial churches in this department, and nineteen temples or houses of prayer; three Bible Societies, one Missionary Society, a Tract Society, and sixteen Protestant schools.

CHIEF TOWNS.

• *AGEN*, which is seated near the Garonne, contains little worthy of notice. The churches of *Saint Etienne*, and of *Saint Caprais*, were erected before the time of Clovis. Saint Caprais, to whom the latter was dedicated, suffered martyrdom A.D. 303; and, it should seem, that the Roman emperors exercised much persecution against the Christians of this part of the world; for

there was formerly a deep hole in the *Hospice de St. Caprais*, called *Sépulcre aux Martyrs*, in allusion to the great number of unhappy beings who had been thrown into it. Saint Caprais had taken refuge in an hermitage, which is still to be seen on a rock north of Agen, from whence there is a beautiful prospect: here he concealed himself for some time, but was finally discovered. Agen has had many masters, and several times it was destroyed. In 1591, while *Marguerite de Valois* had possession of it,

Dont le très bon roi Henri
Fut pendant plus d'une année
Le très-affligé mari;

the *Comte de la Roche*, son of the *Maréchal de Martignon*, resolved on surprising the garrison, and taking the queen and her court prisoners; he succeeded in forcing the gates, and entered the town in the habit of a peasant at two o'clock in the morning; and Margaret and her attendants, alarmed at this unexpected assault, sprang from their beds, and fortunately made their escape in their night clothes.

There are still some remains of Roman baths and arenas in its vicinity, and many medals have been found in the adjacent fields.

The Protestants of this place suffered dreadfully in the wars between the Catholics and the Huguenots.

Long. $1^{\circ} 43' 40''$; lat. $44^{\circ} 12' 22''$.

VILLENEUVE D'AGEN is tolerably built. The *Lot* divides it into two parts, which are united by a bridge of one arch, 100 feet wide, and so high, that the barges pass under it without lowering their masts.

Margaret of Valois, while besieging this place, took prisoner *Cieutat*, father of the governor of the city. The queen ordered him to be conducted close to the walls, and there to be put to death, unless he would use his influence over his son, and induce him to give up the place. But the gallant old man, when he saw his son, who had been summoned to the ramparts, exclaimed, "Do not allow yourself to be diverted from your duty; and remember, if I could be so base as to give you any other counsel, I should no longer be your father, but a cowardly wretch, a traitor, an enemy of your glory, and of our joint country."

The wretches who surrounded the old man had already raised their daggers, when his son pretended he would consent to surrender the city. The gates were opened; but young *Cieutat*, instead of submitting, fell bravely upon his enemies, assisted by his garrison, put them to flight, and rescued his father, whom he carried in triumph to *Villeneuve Agen*.

NERAC is a pretty little town, which derives its interest from having shared, with *Pau*, the honour of being the residence of Henry IV. The remains of the castle belonging to his family, and built by the English, are still to be seen; indeed, the walls of Nerac were standing until the late civil wars, during which, more monuments of the olden time were destroyed than in any former period.

MARMADE possesses fine streets and pretty fountains; it carries on a brisk trade in wines and corn: it was founded by the piratical Normans.

5.—DEPARTMENT OF GERS.

This is an inland department (S.), consisting of a part of *Gascogne*.

SOIL of this department is much varied; in some parts it is argillaceous, stony, and unfruitful; in others, it is rich, producing fine pasture and arable lands. Its mountains are wooded.

RIVERS.—The principal of these are, *Gers*, *Gimone*, and *Baise*.

MINES.—Lead, iron, turquoise, gypsum, and limestone, form a part of its subterranean treasures; it likewise possesses some mineral springs.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Marshal Lasnes*, *Sabattier*, *Blaise de Montec*, *Scipion Duplex*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. This department is the see of the ancient archbishopric of Auch, founded in the fourth century. The Protestants have here a house of prayer annexed to the consistorial church of Montauban, and two Protestant schools.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Auch*, *Condom*, *Lectoure*, *Lombès*, *Mirande*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Agen*, and it is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AUCH is placed on a mountain near the *Gers*, and consequently commands an extensive view: it is divided into the upper and lower town: the streets are long, narrow, and crooked, but clean and well paved. Its cathedral is ancient, at least a part of it; but it presents a disagreeable mixture of the gothic and modern style of architecture. It carries on a small trade in woollen stuffs, iron, slate, plaster of Paris, beasts, timber; and among its arboricultural products are pears, particularly those called *Bon-chrétiens*, or *pears of Auch*.

Long. West $1^{\circ} 45' 4''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 38' 39''$. One hundred and seventy-seven leagues South-west from Paris.

MIRANNE was founded in 1289, and received its name from the beauty of its situation. Woollens, down, goose feathers, and excellent partridges, are the sources from which it derives its prosperity.

LECTOURE is mentioned in history, for its brave defence against the famous *Blaise de Montluc*, the *worthy* instrument of the no less *worthy* Charles IX. The garrison finding the place no longer tenable, was at length obliged to capitulate, on condition that *Montluc* should not proceed to extremities against them: this he not only promised to do, but signed his name to this declaration; but no sooner were the gates open, than the Count of *Armagnac*, his lady, and children, were seized and put to death. The soldiers, like wild beasts, ran up and down the town, killing all they met; *seven* only of the inhabitants escaped, by flight, the general massacre.

6.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTES PYRÉNÉES.

A frontier department (S.); it is formed of *Bigorre* and *Armagnac*, and some other dependencies upon *Gascogne*.

SOIL.—This department is divided into three distinct regions, that of mountains, hills, and plains. The former present great numbers of barren peaks and summits. The hills and the ravines are covered with a vegetable earth, composed of a mixture of animal and vegetable substances dissolved by the action of waters. The plains are sandy.

MOUNTAINS.—The Pyrénées, in various ramifications, traverse the department.

FORESTS.—These are scattered in various parts; some on the mountains, these consist of oak; some in the plains, &c., and these consist of firs.

LAKES.—There are many lakes, though none very large, yet they are full of fish.

RIVERS.—A number of streams rise in this department: the cascade of *Gavarnie* is the source of the *Gers*, the *Adour*, and the *Gave-de-Pau*. The *canal d'Alaric*, and that of *Gespe*, are employed more for turning mills than for navigation.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Michel de Castelnau*, *Despourvins*, *Barrère*, *Larrey*, *M. de Jouez*, *Loustanau*, *General Martini*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Tarbes*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz.: *Tarbes*, *Bagnères*, *Argeles*, *Barèges*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Pau*; it is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

TARBES.—Cæsar calls the inhabitants of this town *Tarbelli*: it has experienced many reverses of fortune. It is seated in a fine plain upon the *Adour*; the houses are well built of stone and brick, with slated roofs, and the streets are watered by streams from the *Adour*: it possesses magnificent gardens. In 1750 it was threatened with destruction by an earthquake, which completely altered the face of a neighbouring country, but fortunately it escaped. The inhabitants of this department present a strange contrast to those of *Les Landes*, although the departments join each other: they are gay and lively, speak with great rapidity, pass quickly from one subject to another, suddenly change their voices from the most amiable to the most repulsive tones, employ hyperbole to express their thoughts, and gesticulate exceedingly. It carries on a brisk commerce in cloths, paper, glass, &c.

• Long. West $2^{\circ} 16' 1''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 13' 52''$. One hundred and ninety-two leagues South-West from Paris.

GAVARNIE.—The valley of this name is one of the most curious in this department; it is situated quite on the frontiers, at the foot of the *Pyrénées*. The *Gave de Pau* rises in it, and con-

tinues its silvery course through the most picturesque scenes, which the following lines admirably describe:—

O d'un pouvoir terrible inexplicables jeux !
 O monts de Gavarnie ! O redoutable enceinte !
 Sur vos flancs escarpés, sur vos remparts neigeux,
 De ce monde changeant la vieillesse est empreinte.
 Ces cypres renversés, ces affreuses peuplades,
 De noirs rochers au loin l'un sur l'autre étendus,
 Sur des gouffres sans fond ces hameaux suspendus,
 Ce luxe de ruisseaux, de torrents, de cascades,
 Par cent canaux divers à-la-fois descendus ;
 Tout m'attriste et me plaît ; tout m'annonce l'empire
 De l'éternel vieillard qui fuit sans s'arrêter.
 Sur la nature enfin tout force à méditer.
 Qu'elle est belle en ces lieux ! quelle horreur elle inspire !
 Il nous faudrait ici Buffon pour la décrire,
 Et Delille pour la chanter.

Yet wolves and bears haunt these scenes of beauty ; and the priest whose philanthropy, and a sense of duty, impels him to visit his christian flock, scattered up and down amidst these wilds, needs no small portion of courage to carry him through his arduous undertaking.

BARÈGES consists of about eighty houses, forming one street ; the half of these are built on the side of the mountain, the opposite half on the banks of the *Gave*. The waters of Barèges were almost unknown until the time of Louis XIV., when Madame de Maintenon, at that time governess to the Duke of Maine, visited them for the benefit of his health.

Barèges is so insignificant in itself, that, were it not for its aqueous virtues, no one would ever visit it ; even its provisions are brought from the distance of twelve or fourteen leagues. But in the season which commences in May, and terminates in September, it is visited by the sick, in search of health ; by the idle, in search of curiosities ; by the botanist, in search of plants ; the mineralogist, in search of minerals ; and the gambler, in search of money.

The first class of visitors are well described in the following lines :—

Sous une voute ténébreuse
 Où pend et brille en perle un sel jaunâtre et dur,
 Des veines d'un rocher recouvert d'un vieux mur,

S'échappe à gros bouillons une onde sulfureuse,
Qui dépose un limon doux, savonneux, et pur.

Debout, dès l'aube matinale,
C'est là qu'un thermomètre en main,
Tout malade en guêtre, en sandale,
En mule étroite, en brodequin,
Curé, juif, actrice ou vestale,
Ou moine, ou gendarme, ou robin,
Coupe s'entonner d'eau minérale
Et cuire à la chaleur du bain.

The second class may be seen any where,—every where; the third, with his tin box, his cramp iron on his shoes, his iron-shod stick, ascends the mountains at dawn of day to collect vegetable treasures; the mineralogist, armed with a hammer, and furnished with a wallet at his back, seeks the more elevated situations in search of rock crystal, violet-coloured granite, white schorl, penetrates the dangerous cavern where purple schorl is to be found, or crawls to the edge of the pits in search of the amianthus. October comes, and these numerous visitors disappear; and so do the inhabitants likewise, carrying away with them the doors and windows of their houses, and leaving them to the ravages of the tempest, the torrent, the wolves, and the bears.

At Campan there are marble quarries, formerly much esteemed; the peristyle at the chateau de Trianon, and the columns at Versailles, are constructed of this variegated marble, the chief colour of which is green. The valley of Campan seems formed to charm the eye of the traveller, who is fatigued with gazing on the peaks, abysses, and rough mountain tops of the Pyrénées. The *Adour d'Aure*, and the *Adour de Tourmalet*, which rise in the Pyrénées, here meander through smiling meadows, richly cultivated gardens, and waving corn fields: the elegance of the houses, the flocks of sheep, and herds of cattle, all those objects which bespeak wealth and peace, combine to produce a picture truly delightful. The herds are entrusted to a race of dogs called *Chiens de Bercaïl*; they are very large, and covered with long thick shaggy hair; the wolves seldom venture where these animals are kept; their bark is sufficient to prevent their approach, for their voice is deep and full; but in other respects they are useless, for another breed of dogs is employed to collect the herd or attend to the flocks.

There was formerly a grotto of much repute in the vicinity of

Campan; but it has been so completely stripped of its stalactites, that it is no longer worth going to see; besides which, there rises from it a fetid and thick vapour, exceedingly disagreable, and so powerful, as nearly to extinguish a flambeau that comes in contact with it. Another curiosity of the valley is *le puits d'Arris*, situated in the middle of a forest, near the village *d'Asté*. This gulf is so profound, that there is no possibility of ascertaining into what substance the stones fall which are thrown into it: clouds of bats and jackdaws issue from the mouth of it on these occasions. The road leading to this gulf is no less wonderful; it is a vaulted passage, through a block of marble, ninety feet thick, and above six miles long, running from east to west. The church of Campan contains the hat and wig of M. de Plantade, who, in 1741, visited *le Pic du midi de Bagnères*: he was then seventy years of age; and having arrived at a platform called *la Hourquette des cinq ours*, he was unable to support the intensity of his feelings, and the sublimity and beauty of the prospect which surrounded him; and having exclaimed, "*Grand Dieu! que cela est beau!*" he instantly expired. But among these picturesque beauties of nature, the traveller is often startled by the appearance of a being, resembling the dwarfs of Sir Walter Scott; a creature about four feet high, with an enormous head, stiff, long hair, a pale countenance, a dead-looking eye, legs that have the appearance of being in the last stage of a dropsy, and an enormous goitre on the neck, which sometimes hangs down below the stomach. This unhappy being begs for charity by extending his hand, smiling vaguely, and by uttering inarticulate sounds or suppressed cries, which his desolate and degraded situation alone interprets. These *Cagots*, for so they are here called, live isolated from the rest of the world; twenty years ago, if any one of these unfortunate beings left his hut, and ventured into the towns or villages, the children would exclaim,—*Cagot, Cagot*! and this cry would bring the smith from his forge, the shopkeeper from his counter, the private individual from his fireside; and, if the poor being did not hasten his flight, and slow was his progress, he not unfrequently lost his life by the stones that were flung after him. There was, however, one day in the week,—Sunday, the Lord's day, and one asylum, the church, the Lord's house, that was free to them,—yet even there made a distinction between him and his fellow man.

A narrow door, through which no one passed but the *Cagots*, a chapel, which no one entered but these unhappy *Cagots*, was reserved for their sole use, where they offered up their imperfect prayers, without seeing or being seen by any one. Even in these days, they are still considered an outcast race; and an alliance of a peasant girl of the plains with a *Cagot*, would excite as much commotion among the inhabitants of the valleys of the Pyrénées, as the feigned one between Idamora and Néala, in M. Delavigne's celebrated tragedy of the Paria. Yet it is strange that these deformities do not show themselves until a child has passed the age of six or seven: he is before this period like other healthy children; his complexion is fresh, his eye lively, and his limbs in proportion; but at twelve, his head has increased prodigiously, his complexion has become sallow, his teeth have lost their whiteness, his eye its fire. Three years later, his skin is shrivelled, his teeth open with difficulty, and he pronounces all the consonants with a whistling indistinctness, that renders his language unintelligible to strangers. His mind partakes of the deformity and weakness of his body, for he is, at fifteen, little better than an idiot. Such are the *Cagots* of the *Pyrénées*.

The inhabitants of the Pyrénées are exceedingly superstitious; they believe in witchcraft; and in the whistling of the wind, or in its stormy gusts, the shepherd hears the *spirit of the woods* on the summit of the rock; his fancy, at the dim hour of twilight, sees the sorcerer who destroys his cattle, and hears his muttered incantations, which throw a spell over the object of his affections. In every neighbourhood there is a sybil in connection with these imaginary beings, and to her the credulous lover repairs to ascertain the fidelity of his mistress, or to acquire information respecting a stray sheep, or the success and prosperity of any undertaking he may have in view. But woe-betide the malicious wren if she deceive him! the blows of the disappointed lover and shepherd are by no means sparingly inflicted; these, however, are not so fatal as the loss of her reputation, which is generally followed by famine and sometimes death, for she exists upon the gifts of her votaries.

A marriage in the Hautes Pyrénées is a gala day. The bride attired in white, and wearing her *joyaux d'argent*, is surrounded by her female friends attired in white likewise. The friends

and relations sign the contract, and afterwards repair to the church. The cortège is led on by the shepherds, blowing at intervals the horns with which they collect their cattle and frighten away the wolves; then comes the minstrel of the village with his violin; he is followed by the bride and the bridesmaids; then follow other shepherds, their dress ornamented with ribbons and flowers. After the religious ceremony is performed, the company repair to the house of the bridegroom; the bride enters first, and takes in her hand a porringer; the husband then advances, makes the sign of the cross upon her forehead, and drops his offering into the vessel. Every one follows his example by placing a flower, a ring, a chaplet, or some trifle of the kind, into this porringer: this is the first and last holiday in the life of a female peasant of the Pyrénées,—it is terminated by dancing and festivity; but, on the following morning, she takes up that distaff which never quits her side, except when she retires to rest. While she attends to the cattle, while she follows the plough, while she rocks the cradle, on her walk to church or to market, her busy fingers ply the distaff.

All the shepherds of the Pyrénées are expert and daring hunters; the bear, which is not so large as that of the *Alpes*, they seek and attack, and generally succeed in despatching him with their daggers. They are also great smugglers. When the flocks are brought home to the folds, when the snow covers the mountains, then the Pyrenean shepherd traverses the upland regions, and passes into Spain, to purchase tobacco, laces, and other small objects of merchandise, which he sells in the valleys, if he be so fortunate as to escape the pursuit of other mountaineers, who are hired by the government to intercept him and such of his companions as adopt this dangerous mode of life. No situation of more intense and fearful interest can be imagined, than that which the flight of the one, and the pursuit the other, of these mountaineers presents; both equally agile, active, and daring, they climb from peak to peak, or ventuously leap over or swim across the torrent that impedes their progress. The result is always fatal to the one or the other; either the smuggler has time to prepare his gun, or the custom house officer has adjusted his, and their aim is too unerring ever to fail in achieving its object.

Bagnères is north of the *Pic du Midi*; it is a pretty town, and

its church of St. Vincent, the hospital, the theatre, and the beautiful house of Fréscati, are worthy of notice. *La maison de Fréscati* is fitted up for the benefit of the bathers; it contains a concert room, ball rooms, reading rooms, dining rooms, and other fine apartments and baths.

BAGNÈRES was called by the Romans *Vicus Aquensis*; and according to the historian *Salaignac*, it was founded by the gods and goddesses who were wounded in the wars with the Titans, and were healed by its waters!

7.—DEPARTMENT OF LOT

This is an inland department (S.), and composed of that part of Guienne called *Quercy*.

SOIL.—It is very fertile, and is diversified by the undulations of hill and dale. The valleys which extend along the banks of the rivers are exceedingly rich, producing an abundance of corn, while the hills are covered with luxuriant vines, producing the celebrated wine of *Vin de Grave*.

FORESTS.—The forests are composed chiefly of chestnut trees, though there are likewise mingled with them, properly denominated forest trees, oak, beech, &c.

RIVERS.—The river *Lot* traverses from east to west the department to which it gives its name. The *Aveyron*, *Garonne*, *Dordognè*, and the *Tarn*, meander amidst its beautiful valleys.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Clement Murot*; *Boutpric*; *Maynard*; *Jaques d'Eure*, *Pope Jean XXII*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Agen*.

This department is divided into three arrondissements, viz.: *Cahors*, *Figeac*, *Gourdon*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Agen*, and it is comprised in the twentieth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CAHORS.—In the neighbourhood of *Cahors* the antiquarian may be gratified by inspecting the ruins of an amphitheatre, an aqueduct, and some other Roman monuments. The cathedral of *Cahors* is likewise interesting from its antiquity, for its

supolas are part of a temple which the Romans had erected to Mercury; and here terminate all remarks upon the works of art in this town. Its natural productions are truffles, and the most exquisite fruits; and among the latter, vines, which produce grapes of so delicious a flavour, that Francis I. transplanted some of them to *Fontainebleau*: the river *Lot* is famous for its pike.

As *Cahors* in itself possesses nothing else worth mentioning, a few anecdotes of customs long gone by may afford some amusement. The ancient bishops of *Cahors* were formerly count likewise; and while they were officiating in their episcopal functions, there were always placed near the altar, a helmet the cross, the crozier, a sword, and gauntlets, as marks of their temporal as well as spiritual power. The viscount of *Semur* acknowledged himself as their vassal; and at the first entrance of the bishop into his diocese, the viscount was obliged to receive him at the gates of *Cahors*, bareheaded and without a cloak; some venture so far as to say, that he was obliged to appear as a harlequin, having the right leg bare, and a slipper on his foot; in this very extraordinary costume, he took hold of the bridle of the bishop's mule, and conducted him to his palace: he then stood behind the prelate's chair, and waited upon him at table; after having performed this service, he was permitted to dress himself, and likewise to carry away with him the sideboard and its plate, and the episcopal mule, as a remuneration for these degrading services.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 53' 58''$; lat. $44^{\circ} 28' 40''$. One hundred and forty-two leagues south of Paris.

SANILLAC is celebrated for its foundry of cannon, and its manufacture of small arms; and its truffles and poultry are in high repute at Paris.

About half a mile from this place are two curious incrustated mountains; the *Georg*, which rises in the valley *Blagour*; and the *Bouley*, which has its source at the foot of *Puy Martin*. The *Bouley* springs from two holes, forming two jets, one, which do not rise perpendicularly, but shooting out in a sloping direction, form an angle with the horizon of forty-five degrees. When the water has been abundant, a loud noise is heard; this announces the eruption of the spring, which suddenly bursts forth with great power and force, inundating the valley, and

even tearing up trees by the roots: if the rain continue, it gradually decreases, and at length flows only drop by drop: then the waters of the *Goury* begin to bubble, all the small fountains in the neighbourhood disappear, and the *Goury* rises in a vertical column twelve feet high, and about three in diameter; it completes the ravages begun by the *Bouley*, as it rushes with rapidity towards the *Dordogne*, where its waters are easily distinguished, by the rapidity with which they flow. When this fountain ceases, the *Bouley* recommence to swell, after which they both disappear: there is no regular time for their appearance, neither for their continuation; they sometimes flow during three, seven, or eight hours; and, upon one occasion, the *Bouley* flowed during several days without intermission; but they never flow together, and the *Bouley* always rises first. In every natural jet d'eau the water springs out to the height of its upper or level surface, showing that there is a higher source or level somewhere.

8.—DEPARTMENT OF TARN ET GARONNE.

This is an inland department. (S.) It is formed by the union of *Quercy* with portions of *Rouergue*, *Aginois*, and *Armagnac*, &c.

SOIL.—The soil is rich, composed of horizontal and alternate layers of hard clay, sand, and soft clay, terminated, on the surface, by a calcareous marl. No chain of mountains intersect this department; but elevated lands, separated either by deep valleys or narrow wild gorges, form the face of the country. These table lands uniformly slope from the south-west to the west. The plain through which the Garonne flows is exceedingly fertile, but the caprices of this noble river are sometimes highly injurious to the country, which extends on each side of its banks. This being formed of all vital earths, composed of beds of clay, marl, and sand, mixed more or less with other earths, is frequently inundated, and the expectations of the agriculturist are suddenly blasted. Not infrequently it changes its course, leaving its former bed dry, while it forms for itself a new course, which it pursues for some period of time, until some unaccountable cause again impels it into a fresh channel. The poplars on its banks grew rapidly, and are equal in size and beauty to those

of Lombardy. The Garonne sometimes rises four and twenty feet above the ordinary level of its waters.

RIVERS.—The *Sabne*, the *Garonne*, *Tarn*, *Aveyron*: the three latter are navigable. Numerous other streams rise in this department. A canal is proposed from Toulouse to Langon.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Raymond du Puy*, first Grand Master of the order of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem; *Caumont de la Force*, a Protestant general of the seventeenth century, and his descendant the Duke de la Force; *Silves*; *Le Franc de Pompignon*, &c. The reader will find in Blackwood's Magazine for January 1836, p. 18, v. 1, a most affecting account of the assassination of the Marshal la Force and one of his sons in the massacre of Saint Bartholomew, and the providential escape of his younger son. The article is No. 2 of the "*Hugonot Captain*."

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Montauban. The Protestants have two consistorial churches, served by four pastors, and two temples or houses of prayer, ten bible societies, two faculties of Protestant theology, &c.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Montauban*, *Maissac*, *Castel-Sarrasin*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Toulouse. It is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS

MONTAUBAN owes its origin to the spirit of its former inhabitants, who, in order to strike off some oppressive and feudal yoke, fled their native city in the vicinity, and took refuge on *le mont Alba*, whence its name. Here they were besieged at different periods, but they bravely resisted their oppressors, and finally established their liberty and right to the spot they had chosen as their habitation. It suffered greatly during the *dragonades*, which Louis XIV. had established for the conversion of its inhabitants to the Roman Catholic faith. The town is divided into three parts—the old, the new, and *la ville de Bourbon*. Eight streets terminate in a fine square, called *Place Royale*, in the centre of which is a beautiful garden. Below the four fronts which border this square, runs a double arcade, supported by Doric columns. Montauban and its environs are very beautiful; every thing here bespeaks noble luxury, and

prosperity. It contains a library, a theatre, and many beautiful walks, particularly one on the banks of the *Tarn*, called *des Faïscs*.

Its territory produces wine, corn, and brandy; and its manufactures consist in silk, stuffs, woollens, silk stockings, starch, pasteboard, linen, serge, and rateens (a kind of woollen stuff). It has also many tanneries, and it excels in the art of dyeing.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 59'$; lat. $44^{\circ} 0' 50''$. One hundred and forty leagues south of Paris.

CASTEL SARRAZIN.—In the neighbourhood of this town. Charles Martel gained a great victory over the Saracens.

SAINT ANTONIN is the birth-place of the renowned *Jean de Lavalette*, Grand Master of the Knights of Malta, who so gallantly defended Malta against an army of 100,000 Mussulmans. A.D. 1565.

9.—DEPARTMENT OF AVEYRON.

This is an inland department (S.), formed of that part of *Guienne* and *Gascogne* called *Rouergue*.

SOIL.—The country is mountainous, but it abounds in fine rich pasture lands.

RIVERS.—The *Aveyron*, *Lot*, and *Tarn*, intersect it from east to west, dividing it into four bantls.

MINES.—Those of alum and pitcoal are alone worked; but the department contains iron, copper, vitriol, and sulphur; and there are, likewise, extensive quarries of marble.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Raynel*, Marshal *Belle-Isle*, *Pechmagé*, and *Estaing*, *Theodat de Gouzon*, Grand Master of Malta.

RELIGION.—Catholic, part of the diocese of *Rodez*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Rodez*, *Espalion*, *Melhau*, *Saint-Affrique*, *Ville-franche*, and *Rouergue*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Montpellier, and it is comprised in the third military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

RHODEZ, which is seated on the *Aveyron*, in the bosom of a most beautiful country, is, nevertheless, an ugly, ill-built town, containing no one object deserving notice except its cathedral, a

magnificent gothic edifice, which was built by the architect *Philandier*. Its steeple is square at the base, but terminates in an octagonal tower, surmounted by four octagonal turrets which become circular towards the summit. The top of the steeple itself is flat, round which runs a stone balustrade. A winding stair makes the ascent easy, and the view from this elevated situation will amply repay the fatigue of mounting to its airy pinnacle.

Rhodes has experienced the general fate of the towns in this part of France, without, however, having been distinguished by any of those extraordinary reverses, misfortunes, or acts of heroism, which entitle them to particular notice. At *Marsillac*, near *Rhodes*, on the road to *d'Entraignes*, there are two grottoes, which are worthy the inspection of the curious. Their proximity is announced to the traveller by the noise of two waterfalls, which are pretty, though not imposing, their height being about forty feet—a grotto then presents itself; its entrance is festooned with the wild vine and creeping plants, and its summit is adorned with the ash and the wild fig tree. The roof of the grotto, which terminates in the shape of a tunnel, is impervious to the rays of the sun; but nature is a fine optician, and has placed at its entrance a basin of water, which, acting as a reflector, throws a soft pleasing light throughout this fairy dwelling, revealing a beautiful smooth mossy turf besprent with “orient pearl.” This grateful dew falls noiseless through the invisible fissures of the rock. On quitting the valley of *Marsillac*, the traveller will arrive at a woody hill, in the bosom of which is the grotto of *Salsac*, but the entrance to it is by no means romantic. It is enclosed by a wall, and has a regular door, which opens into a cave, beyond which is a corridor, about thirty feet wide, and ten high, terminating in a small hole, just large enough for a person to creep through: another corridor, terminated by another door, opens at length into a grotto, or perhaps it would be better to call it a cave of considerable extent. The sides and roof are composed of a dark rugged rock, intermingled occasionally with blocks of a whitish species, which in the uncertain gloom may be transformed into various uncouth figures. A gentle echo, that distinctly gives back the response, contributes not a little to the illusions which a fanciful imagination may easily conjure up in this gloomy cavern. The grotto adjoining

This presents a scene of a very different description. Here all is gay fairy land,—a palace of crystal, containing an organ of crystal, the pipes of which give back a different sound, according to their size. Having reached thus far, the progress of the curious traveller is arrested by subterraneous waters.

This country, indeed, seems famous for caves and grottoes. Near *Milhau*, in the south-east part of this department, there is an abyss called *le Tindoul*. It is 140 feet deep; and its mouth which is triangular, measures 396 feet round the edge. In the crevices, at the sides of this abyss, spring oaks, ash trees, and cherry trees.

MILHAU is seated in a beautiful plain, surrounded on all sides by hills crowned with almond trees, the fruit of which forms the principal commerce of this town. There are many caves and grottoes in this neighbourhood, filled with savoury treasures—*cheese of Roquefort*, which are here piled one upon another, and, it is said, acquire much of their peculiar flavour and smell from being kept in these natural cheese chambers.

VILLEFRANCHE is surrounded by copper mines, and CRANSAC is famous for its mineral waters. Not far from this town is the burning mountain of *Fontagnes*, Etna in miniature. It is 100 feet high; and upon one of its sides there is a fissure, in which may be counted eighteen little craters. At night this crack presents the appearance of a furnace, but in the day-time the fire is not visible. The trees which surround it are very yellow. Upon approaching very close to this fissure the earth trembles under foot, and is very hot; yet this little volcano is cultivated nearly to its mouth, and the cottages of the cultivators are ~~at a~~ ^{at a} few feet distant from it, although their houses are filled with its smoke, and the land they cultivate is intersected by cracks, through which fire is occasionally seen to issue.

DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE GARONNE.

SECTION XV.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF LANGUEDOC,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF HAUTE GARONNE, TARN, AUDE,
HÉRAULT, GARD, LOZÈRE, HAUTE LOIRE, AND ARDÈCHE.

I.—THE DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE GARONNE.

THIS is a frontier department (S.), formed of a part of *Haute Languedoc*, of *Gascogne*, and of the principality of *Comminges*, &c.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Pyrénées*.

RIVERS.—The department of the *Haute Garonne* is watered by a great number of streams, the principal of which are, the *Garonne*, the *Arriège*, and the *Salat*.

MINES.—This department is rich in mineral and stony productions. Iron, copper, antimony, bismuth, pitcoal, are among the former; marble of various kinds among the latter.

MINERAL WATERS.—The department possesses many establishments for the accommodation of those persons who repair thither to drink the mineral waters: of these the following are the principal,—*Bagnères-de-Luchon*, *Encusse*, *Flourens*, and *Barbazan*. All these waters are used as baths, as well as taken internally. The spring at *Saint-Magdeleine de Flourens* is cold and ferruginous.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—*Académies des Jeux-Floraux*, of Sciences, Inscriptions, and Belles-Lettres; and a Society of Medicine, Paintings, Sculpture, Architecture, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Guillaume de Nogaret*, the Cardinal d'Ossat, la Lotzière, de Villele, de Montbel, Clemence Isaure. Pierre Vidal, surnamed the Prince of Troubadours; Fermat. Mont Gaillard, Duranti, Catus, Generals Cafforelli, Perignon. Compans, &c. &c., and l'Abbé Sicard, so celebrated as an Instructor of the deaf and dumb, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Toulouse*. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Culmont*, of four pastors, besides three temples or houses of prayer at other places. There are some Jews here, but they have no synagogue.

This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz. *Toulouse, St. Gauden, Muret, Villefranche.*

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Toulouse*. It is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

TOULOUSE is perhaps the most ancient city of France; it was founded 600 years before Rome, by Tholus, one of the descendants of Japhet; but it nevertheless fell before the superior genius of the Romans. The Touloues^e are said to have carried their victorious arms even as far as Greece, and to have spread the terror of their name into the plains of Asia. They pillaged the Grecian temples, and brought back to their own country immense riches, which on their return to Toulouse they deposited in their own temples, to the amount of fifteen talents of silver. In order to preserve this money from spoliation, the priests pretended that whoever should touch it would suddenly die; hence arose the proverb, *Par de Toulouse*, which signified a misfortune. It is very certain that it was not until the religious wars of late times that this daring deed was ventured upon.

When the Cimbrians advanced from the north, carrying ruin and devastation in their train, the inhabitants of Toulouse, willing to preserve their city from pillage, and to obtain the favour of these new invaders, detained the Roman garrison prisoners: their captivity was, however, amply re^uenged upon the Touloues^e, for the consul Quintus Servilius Scipio, by means of intelligence communicated to him by some of the citizens, unexpectedly appeared before the city, took it, and gave it up to pillage. By this unfortunate circumstance a new city was built on the site of Toulouse, where it now stands. Toulouse suffered greatly in the wars against the Albigenes, and here too the unfortunate Calas suffered unjustly.

* John Calas was a protestant merchant at Toulouse, where he had lived forty years. His wife was an Englishwoman of French extraction: they had five sons, one of whom Louis, turned catholic, in consequence of the persuasion of a catholic domestic, who had lived thirty years in the family. In October, 1761, the family consisted of Calas, his wife, Mark Antony, their eldest son, their second son Peter, and this same domestic. Antony was of a melancholy, gloomy disposition, always brooding over books which treated of suicide, and his mind

Toulouse is seated on the Garonne, over which is a bridge of considerable beauty, and the views all around it are quite enchanting. The *Hotel de Ville*, called the *Capitol*, contains the busts of many illustrious persons born at Toulouse; among these, that of *Clémence Isaure*, *filie aussi spirituelle que genereuse*, is conspicuous. This lady's story has been admirably given by Florian, in a romance, the substance of which is as follows. The father of Clémence, called Alphonso, violently opposed her marriage with a brave knight, Lantrec; and in order to prevent any communication between them, he shut his daughter up in a tower. Lantrec wandered beneath her prison, and at last made himself heard by his lady-love. She advised him to join the army of the king of France, who was then at war with the English, and for the present to yield to the storm. She then flung from her window her nosegay, and bade him keep it for her sake.

became at length insane upon the subject which constantly occupied his thoughts, and he finally hung himself on a bar laid across two folding doors. A great crowd immediately collected round the house as soon as the melancholy event was known; and from one suggestion to the other, each one gaining strength as it passed through the assembled multitude, it was at length finally concluded that he had been strangled, and that too by his own father!

The suspicion of so monstrous a crime arose from a prevalent opinion that it was a common practice among protestants, when they apprehended the conversion of any of their friends to the catholic faith, to murder them. Calas was accused, with all his family, of having committed this atrocious murder; his whole family were tortured to make them confess their guilt. The unfortunate family appealed, for justice, not mercy, to the parliament, but in vain; Calas, upon assumptive evidence, was condemned to the torture ordinary and extraordinary, with other tortures too horrible to mention. Peter Calas, his second son, was banished for life, the other members of the family received pardon. The fraternity of White Penitents got the body of Antony, buried it with great ceremony, and performed a solemn service for him as a martyr, as did the Franciscans likewise. The wretched widow at length found a friend in M. Voltaire, who laid every part of the proceedings before the council of state at Versailles, when the whole of the sentence was reversed, and the clergy and the king vied with each other in heaping benefits upon the survivors of this unfortunate family.

L'églatine est la fleur que j'aime,
 La violette est ma couleur,
 Dans le sourcil tu vois l'emblème
 Des chagrins de mon triste cœur.
 Ces trois fleurs que ma bouche presse
 Seront humides de mes pleurs;
 Qu'elles te rappellent sans cesse
 Et nos amours et nos douleurs.

Lautrec, on receiving the bouquet, quitted his mistress, and after many adventures he again repaired to the neighbourhood of Toulouse, whither the English were carrying every thing before them, and the Toulouese fleeing in every direction. One old man alone seemed resolved to conquer or die. Lautrec rushed to his aid, rallied the soldiers, and received a mortal wound in defending the brave old man, from which at length he fell at his feet, at the feet of Alphonso, the father of Clémence Isaure. Having recognised in the dying knight the lover of his daughter, Alphonso was overcome with grief. Lautrec, feeling that his days were drawing to a close, intreated that Clémence might now at least terminate her life peaceably; he begged likewise that she might be permitted to receive the faded remains of the bouquet, which he had preserved with religious care. Alphonso promised compliance with his dying request, and hastened to his daughter, to communicate the melancholy intelligence of the death of her lover. Clémence Isaure survived Lautrec a few days only; but before her death he made her will, by which she left all she possessed to the re-establishment of *L'Ordre des Fleurs Floraux*, which had fallen into disuse for one hundred and twenty years before that time.

Elle ordonna que chaque année,
 En mémoire de ses amours,
 Chacune des fleurs lui fût donnée,
 Aux plus habiles Troubadours.
 Tout son bien fut légué par elle,
 Pour que ces trois fleurs fut d'or;
 Sa patrie à son vœu fidèle,
 Observe cet usage encore.

But alas! the French revolution swept away even this ancient

and interesting commemoration of her affections and mis-

Sel de Ville is a magnificent building. The palace of justice replaces the famous castle of *Narbonnais*. In the vaults of the monastery of the Cordeliers at Toulouse are exhibited many dead bodies, which have been taken from the tombs of the church and the cloisters. Some of these bodies weigh twelve pounds only, though their form and size would premise that when animated by a living soul they weighed 150. The features retain their form and expression; some bespeaking the owners to have been the victims of the more stormy passions; some wearing a calm and placid aspect, while others

“Grinn’d horribly a ghastly smile.”

“These mummies,” said Maupertuis, who visited them frequently during the year previous to his death, “these mummies seem to smile in scorn upon us, who are still alive.” Among these bodies, the most interesting is that of *Paula Viguier*, one of the most beautiful women of her time.

Toulouse has many manufactories; cloth, silk, blankets, gauzes, woollen stuffs, &c. Its territory produces corn, wine, silk, timber, and wool. There is a mill on the banks of the *Garonne*, which grinds every day forty-five *sétiers*, or 540 bushels of wheat.*

Long. W. $6^{\circ} 58' 34''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 35' 54''$. One hundred and seventy leagues south-west from Paris.

It is at Toulouse that the fine canal of Languedoc commences. The inquisition was established in this town in the time of St. Dominick, but its cruelties and atrocities were so enormous, that the members of the holy office were driven forcibly from the town by the inhabitants.

There is no other town of note in this department, and notwithstanding the beautiful country which surrounds Toulouse, there are some parts of it, particularly the *arrondissement de Saint Gaudien*, which presents the most desolate and forlorn appearance. The inhabitants, indeed, appear as if they inhabited a tomb, not only from the solitude and barrenness of the soil, but from their own personal miseries and their squalid

* *sétier* measures twelve bushels.

appearance: they are mostly gouty, with a livid complexion and a depressed eye.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF TARN.

This department is inland, (S.), composed of a part of *Upper Languedoc* and *Albigeois*.

SOIL.—The plains of this department are rich and fertile, the valleys agreeable, the hills cultivated, and the mountains are covered with wood.

MOUNTAINS.—They are divided into three chains: that on the north forms a part of the lower mountains of *Aëgyron*; that on the west, of the *Cevennes*, and the southern chain is called the *Black Mountains*.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Tarn* and the *Agout*. the former alone is navigable. Many other streams fertilize the valleys: except the *Alou*, the *Viour* and the *Verr*, they are of little importance. One canal, that of *Tarn*, contributes to the interior navigation, but it contains many of the principal basins which feed the grand canal of *Languedoc*.

MINES.—The iron and pit-coal mines, the quarries of marble, clay, and plaster, are properly worked. The department contains many other mineral treasures, such as copper, zinc, lead, manganese, paoli, granite, rock-crystal, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The historian *Rapin, de Thoryas*, *Le Clerc*, *Abbé Bouryer*, the author of the well-known English and French Dictionary; *La Peyrouse*, Generals *Soult* and *Houtpoul*, &c.; Marshal *Soult*, Duke of Dalmatia, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Montpellier*. The Protestants are numerous in this department: they possess four consistorial churches, besides thirteen houses of prayer, thirty-five bible societies, a missionary society, and twenty-one schools.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz. *Alby*, *Castres*, *Guillac*, *Lavaur*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Toulouse*. It is comprised in the ninth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ALBY was first inhabited by the Helvetians, but it has more powerful claims upon the attention and sympathies of mankind.

than its antiquity, from a council which was held within its walls A. D. 1176, by order of Pope Innocent III., at which the sentence was passed for the extinction of the Albigenes. Alby is situated on an eminence, at the foot of which flows the *Tarn*; it commands an extensive prospect. The prefecture, the bishop's palace, and some other buildings, are worthy of notice, and the walk called *La Live*, which encircles the city, is very fine. The plant *woad*, so useful in dyeing, has been long cultivated in this department, and it is in the neighbourhood of *Alby* that the little cakes of blue dye, called *Cocagne*, are principally manufactured. The wax candles of this place are likewise celebrated, and considered little inferior to those of *Mans*.

Long. $0^{\circ} 11' 42''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 55' 36''$. One hundred and sixty-eight leagues south from Paris.

CASTRES.—This town owes its origin to the following circumstance: two brothers, who had been in the army, weary of a military life, retired to this place in far distant times; and here they erected two little cells, which they composed of branches of trees and mud. The society of these two devout personages was much sought after: house after house was erected in their neighbourhood, and for two or three centuries afterwards the spot on which the recluses had lived was considered holy, and was resorted to as a resting-place for all those disquiet spirits who were weary of the world. In process of time the community increased and became what it now is—a dense and thriving population. The inhabitants, having subsequently embraced the protestant faith, erected themselves into a small republic; but in the year 1629, Louis XIII. having captured their town, compelled them to demolish their fortifications.

Castres is divided into seven quarters or *gaches*, as they are called, which each bear the name of some important personage: it is watered by two rivers, the *Durengue* and the *Agout*. It is a neat pretty town, and carries on a small trade in cloths, flannels, caps, &c.

Long. W. $0^{\circ} 5' 44''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 86' 11''$. One hundred and fifty-five leagues from Paris.

Near *Soréze*, not far from *Castres*, is a grotto, containing blocks of marble, which, although the production of dame Nature, have all the appearance of being carved by man; this spot externally, from the vast number of fragments of the

rock which are scattered about, is called *la Roquette*. In the midst of these is *le Rocher tremblant*. This enormous mass of rock, which is, as nearly as can be calculated, thirty tons in weight, is of an egg-like form, but flat, and so well poised upon another rock, that a man at the top, by exerting his strength, can make it balance about an inch from north to south, although at its base it scarcely appears to move more than a line or two. Many curious travellers have engraven, not only their names, but sentences expressive of their feelings and character. The following is evidently that of a lover:—

Puisse-je ainsi é mouvoir ton cœur, cruelle Phillis

The next is more likely that of a philosopher:—

Ainsi donc le plus élevé tremble aussi!

a not inappropriate application to the fate of the cruel and fanatic Dominick, ~~is~~ named a saint, whose grotto is still pointed out beneath this ~~rearing~~ ~~stone~~. It was to this solitude he repaired to conceal himself from the enraged Albigenes, against whom he had not only launched his anathemas, but whom he had persecuted to the death with fire and sword. The inquisition, with all its terrors, and the Order of the Dominicans, owe their origin to this sanguinary preacher of a religion of mercy, peace, and good-will to all mankind. What a perversion of the word saint, to bestow it upon such a ruthless, pitiless fanatic! Oh! had he opened the Book containing the tenets of his faith, he would there have found that great and new law of LOVE TO ONE ANOTHER, by which the disciples of our blessed Saviour were to be distinguished from all other men.

The grotto in which friar Dominick took refuge is spacious and lofty, but the entrance is small and narrow: from the roof, which sinks a little in the middle, gently filters a clear water, falling into a little basin, called *le Bénédictier*: this basin has most probably been formed imperceptibly by the dripping of the water. The floor is paved with small pebbles; two small apertures faintly illumine this gloomy chamber; beyond it is another apartment, which can only be entered with flambeaux. The construction of the roof of this subterraneous dwelling is perhaps its greatest curiosity. It is formed of separate pieces of rock, nearly oval, which support each other solely by their contiguity. We are not informed, however, by any persons who

have visited this place, whether this roof be horizontal, elliptical, circular, or a catenarian curve.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF AUDE.

This is a maritime department, formed of a part of ancient *Languedoc*, (S.)

SOIL.—The soil is of a mixed nature, being composed of free-stone, chalk, gravel, and fresh water sand, in which fossil bones are frequently found. The vegetable layer of earth is thick and rich in the valleys, but in the mountainous districts it is barren and unproductive.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Aude* is bounded on the south by the *Pyrénées*, and on the north by a branch of the *Cevennes*, called *Montagne Noire*: a double chain of secondary mountains, the *Hautes* and *Basses Carbières*, traverse it from east to west, and a chain of calcareous hills rise along the Mediterranean from the north to the south.

FORESTS.—In such a mountainous region these may be supposed to abound: they occupy indeed a large portion of the soil, and consist chiefly of oaks, beech, ash, pines, and firs. Since the revolution much damage has been done to the under-wood by injudicious loppings, and in some places entire destruction of many valuable plants, particularly of the dwarf oak, (*quercus coccifera*), the bark of which is so useful in tanning, and the leaves for feeding the insect *hermes* (*cochineal*).

COASTS AND PORTS.—The coast is intersected by many inlets or locks from the sea: at *Franco* the shore is flat, smooth, and sandy; at *La Nouvelle* there is a port, the only one on the coast.

RIVERS.—There is no navigable river in the department; the *Aude* is the principal; among many minor streams, which are its tributaries, there are the *Tresquel*, *Orbiel*, *Rebent*, &c. They are useful for purposes of irrigation. It is partly traversed by the *Canal du Midi* and the *Canal de Narbonne*.

MINES.—There are many mineral and metallic treasures found in this department, but those mines only are worked which produce iron and copper; lead, manganese, cobalt, silver, and even gold, are said to want only the labours of art to turn to good account; quarries of lithographic stone, gypsum, lime-

stone, slate, &c. Near *Bige*, in the valley of *Fons*, there are vast and curious caverns, abounding with fossil bones of stags, goats, antelopes, bears, chamois, a species of ox (*Bos Uvula*), horses, and a great variety of rats, mice, and shells, of every description; birds, and what is extraordinary, fragments of pottery, analogous to Etruscan vases, as well as of human bones. In a quarry of calcareous marl, near Armissan, in the middle of the mountains *de la Clape*, there are many stones, impressed with the figures of plants, so well delineated, that their genus and family can be ascertained.

MINERAL WATERS.—A number of cold and hot medicinal springs are found in this department, but one alone is frequented by visitors, and that is at *Rennes-les-bains*. There are a few salt springs likewise, which contain more salt than sea-water.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The latin poet, *Terentius Varro*, the emperor *Carus*, *Bernard de Montfaucon*, *Fabrice de l'Eglantine*, *Meyer Delin Andreossy*, and many military men of distinguished bravery.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Carcassonne*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz. *Carcassonne*, *Narbonne*, *Castelnaudary*, *Limoux*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Montpellier*. It is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CARCASSONNE.—This town is most beautifully situated on the *Aude*; it is the ancient *Carcasum* of the *Tectosages*. The remains of the fortifications which still surround it, prove how much it has suffered from war. After the death of Alaric, king of the Goths, the Burgundians, the Saracens, and the Franks, alternately got possession of it; and in later times, and particularly in 1209, when it was besieged by Simon de Montfort, of cruel memory, it was reduced to the greatest extremity; but it was not until the besiegers cut off their supply of water, that the helpless Carcassonnians finally submitted, and Count Raymond Raynaut, the last Count but one, who held this place, was, in defiance of treaties, thrown into prison, where he died at the age of twenty-four years.

Carcassonne is divided into the upper and lower town; the

former is called *the city*; it contains the cathedral, which is rare and regularly built, and the castle; but a name is but a name, and in this alone the superiority of *la cité* consists; the lower town has more agreeable claims upon the attention of the traveller. The streets are regular and elegant, and they are kept tolerably clean. Carcassonne possesses two squares and a beautiful marble fountain, called the *Fontaine de Neptune*, because it is surmounted by the figure of this god, drawn by four marine horses, which issue from a rock. Carcassonne has many manufactories of different kinds of cloths, which are principally sent to the Levant, and its wines and brandies are shipped to all parts of the world.

Long. $0^{\circ} 0' 49''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 12' 45''$. One hundred and sixty-seven leagues south from Paris.

At Appendu, in this department, and at no great distance from Carcassonne, in the year 1776, a column of fire rose from the earth in the shape of a water-spout, and precipitated itself into the Aude, the water of which it is said to have dried up for a time, and to have made the stones in the bed of the stream red hot!

NARBONNE, which was founded by a Gaulish king, called Narlo, was the capital of the Volsques, is situated on an arm of the Mediterranean Sea, and is defended by the fort of *Leucate*, erected by Francis I., as a rampart against any attack from the Spaniards: and, as connected with this place, the following heroic conduct of a lady, called *Constance de Cezelly*, a native of Montpellier, deserves to be recorded.—Her husband, who was called away from his charge by particular affairs, had extorted from his wife a solemn promise not to surrender the fort during his absence. Unfortunately he was taken prisoner, and the besiegers, thinking to intimidate the lady, brought her husband under the walls of the fort, and threatened to execute him before her eyes. Faithful, however, to her promise, she refused to give up her trust, and the enemy strangled the governor, and sent his body to *Constance*. She had at this time *le Seigneur de Loupian*, one of the chiefs of the opposite party, in her power, and she was advised to sacrifice him in revenge. But *Constance de Cezelly* proved that her fortitude, which had imposed upon her the painful task of being the innocent cause of her husband's death, was founded upon noble and Christian principles. She rejected

the proposal with horror, and confined her proceedings to the regular operations of warlike defence, which she happily accomplished; and Henry IV., charmed with her conduct, appointed her *gouverneur* of the fort.

The cathedral contains the tomb of *Philippe le Bel*, whose corpse was brought thither from Perpignan. It has, likewise, a small theatre. Of the amphitheatre, the baths, the aqueduct, and other public buildings, which were erected by the Romans, not a trace remains, except in the historic page. Indeed it seems now distinguished for its honey alone; yet it was once the capital of *Gallie Narbonensis*, and its power extended from the Pyrénées to the Alps. Under Augustus it was greatly enlarged and embellished. In the reign of Antonine it was consumed by fire, A. D. 138, and this pious emperor rebuilt it at his own expense. In 413, *Atulphus*, King of the Visigoths, seized it: the Romans retook it in 462. The Saracens afterwards got possession of it; and in 719, *Pepin le-Bref*, after a siege of seven years and a half, drove out the Saracens and united it to the kingdom of France, though it was governed by a succession of thirty-two Counts. It was the birth-place of Marcus Aurelius. The air is very unhealthy.

Dans cette vilaine Narbonne,
Toujours il pleut, toujours il tonne.

* * * *

Vielle ville toute de fange,
Qui n'es que ruisseaux et q'égout.
Pourrais tu prétendre de rous
Le moindre vers à tes louanges? * u

Notwithstanding this tirade, Narbonne carries on a flourishing trade in horsey, silk, wine, olives, corn, &c. It also possesses manufactories of leather, stockings, and wax candles.

Long. $6^{\circ} 39' 59''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 10' 58''$. One hundred and ninety-five leagues south from Paris.

Near the town of *Limoux* there is a chapel erected to *Notre Dame de Limoux*. It is situated on a small eminence at the foot of which flows the river *Aude*. It was erected about four centuries ago. The edifice is large, and its interior decorations are rich and elegant. Adjoining to this chapel an old priest and the sacristan have a house. This mass of buildings, sur-

* La chapelle et Baccamont.

mounted by a high steeple, presents a very picturesque object. M. Guiraud thus describes the country around it :-

Au pied des hautes Pyrénées,
Où l'Aude se promène en un vallon riant
Limoux, où je naquis, s'élève verdoyant
Sur des plaines, au loin, de pampres couronnées.

On the 8th of September a great number of old men, women, and children, assemble at the foot of this hill, where they commence their pilgrimage to *Notre Dame de Limoux*. The ascent to the chapel is paved, and, at certain distances, it is divided by bands of rough stones, which mark out the stations for prayer. The pilgrims ascend this hill on their knees, and in this position they enter the church, and advance thus to the statue of the Madonna, which is ill-formed and very black, but it stands in a golden niche, and is surrounded by offerings which have been presented, and accompanied by adoration and prayers. The number of pilgrims who visit this virgin is almost incredible. The church is generally open, and illumined all night, during which the young girls unite themselves into bands, according to their villages, and chaunt *cantiques* in succession. When they are weary of singing, they seat themselves in the stalls, and pass the time in joyous and even noisy gossip, or stretch themselves for sleep upon the stone slabs of the pavement. There is a well in the middle of the church, which supplies the pilgrims with water. Round the outside of the church a number of small *marchands* are assembled, who sell sugar-plums, cakes, jewellery, and chaplets. The appearance produced by this fête is that of a pagan festival rather than an assemblage of Christians at their devotions. On the side of the hill, about half-way up, there is a fountain, whose waters issue drop by drop from the earth. Many virtues are attributed to this fountain—it is said to cure fevers, disorders of the eye, &c. &c.

It is customary in the *Hautes Pyrénées* to keep all the churches open and illumined throughout the whole of the night.

4.—DEPARTMENT OF HÉRAULT.

This is a maritime department (S.), formed of a part of ancient Languedoc.

SOIL.—The soil is generally calcareous, here and there intermingled with volcanic traces, particularly at *Agde*, *Montferrié*, *Valmargues*, and *Saint-Thiberry*.

MOUNTAINS.—These are composed of the spars or *atiments* of the *Cerennes*, inclining from north to south. Those of *Larsac* are the most elevated.

ÉTANGS OR PONDS.—The chief of these are at *Mauguio*, *Perols*, *Maguelonne*, and *Thau*. At *Capestang* and *Vendres* there are two, the waters of which are salt.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Hérault*, the *Lez*, and the *Orb*; they are partly navigable. The canal of Languedoc traverses a small portion of this department; and many others of a secondary nature greatly facilitate its internal traffic.

PORTS.—Those of *Agde* and *Cette* are the principal.

MINES.—Iron, copper, and pitcoal mines abound, and are very well worked. There are, besides indications of the more precious metals, which are at present unworked or unnoticed, magnificent quarries of alabaster, gypsum, granite, free-stone, potters' clay, &c. &c. In the neighbourhood of Castelnaud, and in alluvial soil, formed by the *Lez*, a species of ruby, called *Rubis-balais*, is found; and at *Gabian* beautiful crystals, red and transparent. Bituminous substances are common.

MINERAL WATERS.—This department contains a great number of mineral springs. Those of *Avesne* are efficacious in paralytic and rheumatic complaints; those of *Balarua* in cases of scrofula; those of *Malon* for rheumatic and gouty affections: these are all hot springs. The *Boullidon* is thus named because, although its waters are cold, they appear to boil, from the violence with which they emit a quantity of gas. At *Gabian* there is the *fontaine de Pétrôle*, the surface of which is covered with oil.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are many learned societies and museums in this department, as well as schools of medicine, &c., botanic gardens, rich libraries, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Saint Roch*, *Jagues le Conquérant*, King of Arragon; *Cambon*, *Cambacères la Garde*, *Mathias Dénas*, *Poitevin*, &c.; *Marcus de Latude*, *Le Marquis de Bon*, who first amused himself with converting the spider's thread into a silk or stuff; *Paul Riquet*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the protection of the

Bishop of Montpellier. The Protestants have four consistorial churches in this department, fifteen bible societies, ten missionary societies, bible and tract societies, and eighteen schools. The Jews have a synagogue at *Montpellier*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Montpellier, Béziers, Lodève, Saint-Pons*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Montpellier*. It is comprised in the ninth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MONTPELLIER, the chief city of this department, and one of the most beautiful cities of France, is seated upon a hill, near the river *de Lez*, and upon the river *Merdunon*, which passes through the city, and, in several places too, by means of subterraneous canals. Montpellier contains a citadel, a famous university for medicine, and a society of learned men for the cultivation of the sciences. The *place de Peyron* is deservedly admired. The view from this spot is magnificent. A splendid fountain cools the air as it sparkles in the sun-beams, and wafts the perfumes from the surrounding gardens. Montpellier itself presents a magnificent picture with its seven gates, which are all visible at this point, and its citadel. Beyond these rise the mountains of Rousillon, above which tower the proud Pyrénées, their summits covered with snow, while at the foot of the spectator of this enchanting picture, flow the blue waves of the Mediterranean sea.

Ce vaste amas de flots, ce superbe élément,
De l'aveugle fortune image naturelle,
Comme elle séduisante, et perfide comme elle.

The women of Montpellier have been celebrated from time immemorial for

Cette douceur, cette mollesse,
Qui répand tant d'aménité
Dans l'aimable société
De cette ville enchanteresse !

The Romans called it *Mons Puellarum*, from the beauty of its females, who are to this day celebrated for their personal charms and pleasing manners and address.

A magnificent aqueduct also claims the admiration of the traveller. The situation of Montpellier as regards commerce, as well as beauty, is highly advantageous, being but a short distance from *Cette*, where the canal of Languedoc terminates. The country around it consists of hills covered with gardens, vineyards, and oliveyards. The botanic gardens, the first established in Europe, afford many beautiful walks. There are no certain records of this town before the year 1196, when some Jewish physicians established its school of medicine, which Pope Nicholas IV. converted into an university; and *Charles le Bel* founded the school for law. Pope Urban V., a native of this place, founded the college in 1389, which has been the nursery of many distinguished characters.

The air of Montpellier is particularly salubrious, and many invalids repair thither to pay their respects to the goddess Hygiea. One of the principal articles of its commerce is verdigris, but it likewise exports vitriol, brandy, spirits of wine, perfumes, liquors, dried fruits, olives, oil of olives, oranges, and lemons; besides which, it manufactures handkerchiefs and various other articles of drapery.

Long. $1^{\circ} 32' 25''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 36' 33''$. One hundred and eighty-six leagues south-east from Paris.

GIGNAC claims no other notice than that which it derives from the following answer of Molière; but here it will be proper to observe, that this great dramatic writer and performer first commenced his successful career in this part of France. *Pézénas* was the centre of his radiations; and a barber, named Gely, preserved as a relic the arm chair in which Molière sat in his shop, and which no doubt drew many customers to Maître Gely: it is remarkable, that in the absence of Molière, no one dared occupy this chair, which finally became the property of the learned *Astruc*. But Molière's answer? One day, as he was going from *Gignac* to *Pézénas*, he lost his trunk; his companions took great pains to find it, but without effect. "Do not trouble yourselves, gentlemen," said Molière, "I have just left *Gignac*; I am at *Leignac*; I see the steeple of *Montagnac*; my trunk is no doubt lost, in the midst of all these *gnats*; it will never be found."

Béziers is a very commercial town; its environs are so very beautiful, that the Romans said, "If the gods wished to inhabit

the earth, they would fix themselves at Béziers." *Béziers* was first inhabited by a Roman colony, who were succeeded by the Visigoths; and *Pepin le Bref*, in the year 752, took possession of it. The inhabitants of this place are distinguished by the unbridled scope they give to their passions; their love and their hatred are equally strong; either patient in the extreme, or impetuous and impatient; economical, or prodigal: it seems unnatural to them, and impossible, that they should ever acquire that happy medium famed in more temperate climates; Béziers being in one of the hottest places in France, the extreme heat appears to affect their character in every point of view. In all religious wars they have displayed a spirit of revenge and persecution truly frightful, which has led to the commission of the most cruel and outrageous barbarities. In former times, on Palm Sunday, the bishop of Béziers was used to exhort the town's-folk to revenge themselves upon the Jews; and gave them permission during one fortnight, to attack and beat down this unfortunate people, and to break down their houses, provided they used no other offensive weapon than stones. In 1159, Raymond Trencaval, viscount of Carcassonne, abolished this sanguinary custom; four years afterwards, one of the Bézériens having insulted a knight in the train of this Raymond, the other knights took the law into their own hands; and the town's-folk, in the spirit of retaliation, assassinated Raymond and all his courtiers in the church of *Sainte Madeleine*. In 1169 Roger II., son of Raymond Trencaval, formed an alliance with the king of Arragon; and under pretence of confiding a distant expedition to the Arragonese, he admitted them into the city, and thus secured to himself the means of punishing the murderers of his father. These Arragonese fell upon the people, hung the principal citizens, and the rest were sacrificed without mercy to the manes of Raymond: the Jews upon this occasion escaped, having happily taken no part in the death of the count: the females were likewise spared, and those that were old enough were married to the Arragonese. In 1206 the inhabitants, having embraced the faith of the Albigenses, were attacked by the crusaders of *St. Dominick* and *Simon de Montfort*, and 30,000 of them fell beneath the swords of these fanatic defenders of the Roman Catholic Christian religion.

Near Béziers there is a fountain of petroly, the waters of

which are covered with a crust of bitumen, and very much resemble those of the fountain of *Brochelburn* in *Alsace*; this fountain is situated

Au village de Gabian,
Entre Saint-Jean et Cassan,
Vers le midi de Vailhan,
Dans le Canton de Roujan . . .
Mais si je voulais, vraiment,
M'occire sur tous les ans
De cet arrondissement,
J'en aurais bien pour un an.

Long. $0^{\circ} 52' 24''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 20' 33''$. Two hundred and three leagues south from Paris.

CETTE.—The position of this little town between the *canal du Midi*, and that of the *Rhone*, renders it a very active and busy place: it is situated at almost an equal distance from *Nau* and the Mediterranean, protected on one side by the hills *de Mar-seillon*, and *de Frontignon*.

LUNEL is famous for its wine, called Lunel. A short time ago a workman, digging between *Lunel* and *Maussillargues*, found about a million (of francs) of money in gold and silver; the silver coins bore the effigy of Count Raymond, Viscount of Toulouse, and the gold bore Arabian characters. All these coins were sent to the Academy of Inscriptions, without reserving one to satisfy the curiosity of amateurs.

Among the curiosities of this department the following deserves most notice:—

On the eastern banks of the river *Hérault*, is the grotto, known in this country as *la Baume de las Donmaisellas*, or *des Fées*. This grotto consists of many large, deep apartments, some of which are indeed inaccessible; the second, (and they are all one below the other,) presents to the eye of the beholder four beautiful pillars, about thirty feet high, terminating at the top like palm trees; they are detached from the roof, which is only to be accounted for by supposing that the bottom, or *grotto*, has, in some concussion of nature, sunk from its original level: the third chamber, still descending, and like the former only to be reached by ropes and ladders, presents, at the farther end, one vast curtain of crystal, to which the lights, carried on such occasions, give the appearance of all manner of precious stones.

Some of the stalactites of this apartment are solid and white as alabaster, some clear and transparent as glass; they are of every fantastic form and description, as well as displaying perfect representations of cascades, trees, festoons, lances, pillars, fruits, flowers, and even the regular arrangement of architecture in a cathedral! The fourth chamber is a long gallery covered with fine sand: beyond this three great pillars present themselves, and behind, there is a lake of thick muddy water. All these grottoes have been long known to the peasantry, but another was lately penetrated, in which every former variety of stalactite was seen, but, in addition to these was found an altar, white, like fine china, having regular steps to it of the same material: it is composed apparently of layers of the opaque stalactite, of a dazzling white and exquisite polish: four twisted columns, of a yellow colour and transparent, whose height is less in the vast roof; an obelisk, perfectly round, of a reddish colour, of a great height, and a colossal figure of a woman, holding two children in her arms, and placed upon a pedestal, completed the astonishment of the daring explorers of this subterraneous cavern. But alas! this astonishment was changed into feelings of a more melancholy description, when they recalled the circumstance, still current in the neighbourhood, that, during the religious wars, a family (whether Protestant or Catholic is not ascertained, or at least mentioned), consisting of a father and mother and one or two children, sought refuge in these subterraneous grottoes from the persecution of their enemies, and there preserved a miserable existence, far from the cruelty of

Man, whom Nature form'd of milder clay,
With every kind emotion in his heart,
And taught alone to weep.

For some years they supported themselves with berries, and now and then they were seen endeavouring to secure a stray kid or goat for food. The solitude and silence of their almost inaccessible dwelling, imbued them and their fate with an awful character, and from being objects of pity, they became at length objects of terror, to the neighbouring peasantry, who told strange stories of the unfortunate beings thus consigned to cold and hunger, and compelled to seek a wretched home within the bowels of the earth. Their spare forms, their pale countenances, their tattered garments waving in the breeze, all threw a mystic

feeling over their appearance, and they were transformed into fairies and spectres. The shepherds fled when they appeared, and the children, as they clung affrighted to their parents, with strained eyes and parted lips, followed the rapid movement of the mountaineers, as they in their turn, alarmed at the sight of their fellow-creatures, fled from height to height, until they gained their rocky asylum. Such an accumulation of suffering and misery was not, however, calculated to prolong existence: terror and fear destroyed the mind, as hunger and cold destroyed the body, and after the lapse of a few years, one by one, these spectres disappeared: but still they figure in all the local stories and traditions peculiar to the neighbourhood, under the form of witches, fairies, and sorcerers. The question is, whether the altar and the figure are not the work of these unfortunate beings, who might find in this employment a transitory solace for their misery.

In traversing the south of France,—in listening to the traditions of the peasantry,—in searching into the records of their towns, the heart bleeds at the numerous, and, in fact, never-ceasing proofs, that of all the causes which have produced most wretchedness, most horrors—*religion* has been the most powerful; rather should we not say superstition, fanaticism, and bigotry, all enemies to the spirit of true religion, which is in itself pure, holy, charitable, and calculated to soften every sorrow, heal every mental wound, cheer man on his weary pilgrimage to “another and a better world,” into which it will surely accompany him, since religion is *love* or *charity*. Hope will then expire with fruition, and faith will then no longer have any exercise; but love will then have an interminable existence; “for love is heaven—and heaven is love.”

5. DEPARTMENT OF GARD.

THE department of *Gard* consists of that part of Languedoc called *Alais*, *Nîmes*, and *Urges*; it is a maritime department, (S.)

SOIL.—*Gard* is intersected by mountains, rocks, hills, valleys, plains, ponds, marshes, and rivers.

MOUNTAINS.—The west and north-west of this department is covered with high mountains; the western point of which presents a vast square of table land, thirty leagues in extent,

called *Larzac*. Farther north extend the mountains of *Lovezon*, which slope gently as they advance into the department. The *Aigoual*, situated upon the extremity of *Lozère*, is the highest point between the ocean and the Mediterranean. These two seas receive the waters of all the rivers which rise in the *Gard*, some of which fall into the *Tarn*, which joins the *Garonne*; while the others unite themselves in the basin of *L'Hérault*.

COASTS AND ISLANDS.—The coast extends but a short distance along the Mediterranean; it is much interrupted by ponds and salt marshes: the sands too, on the shore, present the phenomena of moving hills, which, impelled by the wind, constantly change their place. Between the canal of *Aigues-Mortes*, one branch of the *Rhone*, and the sea, there is a barren island, called *Gran d'Orgon*; an immense forest of pines forms a dark boundary along the shore; these, with brambles, briars, reeds, &c., are the only objects of vegetation to be seen here; but if the vegetable world be so limited in the island of *Gran d'Orgon*, the animal world displays a more extensive reign. Thousands of birds of prey have made the summits of the forest trees cradles for their young; while serpents lay their eggs in the cavities of the trunks, or among their moss-grown roots, which form fantastic arches and lilliputian caves at the foot of these towering pines; and weasels, foxes, and hares multiply and make war upon each other with impunity beneath their shade. Herds of cattle, as black as ebony, browse, ruminate, or sleep through the hot hours of the mid-day sun, shaded by their branches, and at sun-set quit this solitude to repair to the shore, where they inhale the fresh sea-breezes of evening; there, motionless, and side by side, they have the appearance of an army in black uniforms, ranged in military order. A herdsman, on horseback, watches them at a distance, and prevents their passing the waters of the canal. Gnats and insects abound through the whole extent of the marshes to a fearful degree, where reptiles of every kind multiply extraordinarily.

MARSHES.—The salt-marshes are abundant; those in the territories of *Aigues Mortes* and *Saint Laurent d'Aigouze* belong to the state. The salt is collected in June and July, when two thousand workmen are employed in working it, gathering it up in pyramidal heaps, called *camelles*, upon the banks of the

canal of *Sylveréal*, from whence it is transported in boats to the interior of France.*

RIVERS.—They are very numerous: six bound the department: viz. the *Rhone*, the *Ardèche*, the *Borne*, the *Vidoule*, the *Vis*, and the *Virenque*. Six others fall into the sea or into other streams; these are the *Gard*, the *Ceze*, the *Gagnon*, the *Claize*, the *Brestolour*, and the *Dartigne*. Five have their sources in this country; viz. *Hérault*, the *Tarnon*, the *Bregé*, the *Joute*, and the *Doarbie*.*

PONDS AND CANALS.—*Aigues Mortes* was formerly situated upon the coast, but it is now surrounded by ponds and marshes, and its only communication with the Mediterranean is by means of the canal *Grande-Roubine*.

MINES.—This department is rich in metals, such as iron ore, lead, antimony, and zinc. Amongst its combustible substances are pit-coal, &c. &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are two establishments for visitors and invalids at *Fonsanches* and *La Euzet*. The waters at the former are ferruginous, those at the latter are sulphurous.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Pope Clement IVth.; *Nicot*, Ambassador in Portugal, who introduced tobacco into France; *Trancas de Nimes*—he brought the mulberry tree into the southern provinces; *Séguier*, *La Baumelle*, *Florian*, *Rabaut*, *Saint Etienne*, *General Dumartin*, *Marquis de Moncalm*, *Colonel de Boyer de Peyrelau*, &c. &c.*

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Nimes* there are a Royal Academy; Society of Medicine; a Commission of *Monuments Antiques*; of Departmental Archives; a Museum of Antiquities, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Nimes*. The Protestants in this department are very numerous: they amount to 140,000. They have seventy-eight temples, or houses of prayer; thirty-one bible societies, fifteen missionary societies, ten religious tract societies, and one hundred and forty Protestant schools. Wherever there are Protestant churches in France, there are bible societies.

* Many of the smaller streams in this department, which rise in the Cevennes, have the general name of *gardon* attached to them, as those which fall from the *Basses* and *Hautes Pyrénées* are called *gaves*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Nîmes, Alais, Uzès, Levis*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Nîmes*. It is comprised in the ninth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

NÎMES is the capital. It is a very ancient city, and has modern claims to the rank of a second-rate city of France; but the Roman monuments which it contains, and those which are found in its environs, add greatly to its importance and interest, and place it in the first rank. *Nîmes* is of Celtic origin, and its present name is derived from the *Nemoirs* of the Romans, originating in the Celtic word *Nemoz*. *Nîmes* owes its ancient greatness to the attachment it ever evinced to its conquerors, the Romans. Its renown does not extend beyond the period when the conquerors of the world made it one of their principal cities, and the Roman nobility one of their chief places of residence.

That the city was in those days twice its present size is evident from the fact, that the *Tour Magne*, which now stands at a considerable distance from *Nîmes*, was one of eighty towers which flanked the city walls. No remains of these walls now exist; but the elegance of the *Tour Magne*, which stands on an eminence, leaves much to be regretted, in a picturesque point of view, in the loss of the other seventy-nine towers. Charles Martel endeavoured to destroy this tower entirely, but could not succeed in his intended work of demolition. At the foot of this eminence there was formerly a fountain, which supplied the city with water, by means of the aqueduct of *Nîmes*, better known as the *Pont du Gard*.

This aqueduct rises between two mountains upon the river Gardon, three leagues north-east of *Nîmes*. It is constructed of blocks of freestone, placed one upon the other, without either mortar or cement. It consists of three rows of arches, placed the one upon the other. The first row is ten toises, two feet, high, and eighty-three toises long. The second row is ten toises high, and one hundred and thirty-three toises, two feet, in length. The third row is four toises high, and one hundred and thirty-six toises, two feet, in length. The elevation of this fine edifice, from the water to its highest point, is twenty-four toises, three feet. Upon the third arcade the aqueduct is constructed, level with

the summit of the mountain. It is four feet wide, and five high. Slabs of stone, one foot thick, three feet wide, and one foot broad, cover it entirely. The inside is lined with a cement three inches thick, painted red, over a foundation of small stones, mixed with gravel and lime, making together a solid mass of eight inches, capable of preventing the exuding of the waters. A long succession of conduits, which terminate in the aqueduct, conveyed to Nîmes the waters of the fountains of *l'Évre* and *l'Airain*. These fountains rise near *d'Uzés*, and although they are but about three leagues and a half from Nîmes, the aqueducts extend over seven leagues, on account of the windings which it was necessary to take for preserving the necessary height and level.

This aqueduct conveyed the waters to divers reservoirs, by means of smaller aqueducts, which several subterraneous canals and pipes distributed into different quarters of the city. It is impossible to give any idea of the grandeur of this stupendous work of art, or of the beauty and picturesque effect it presents, situated as it is in the most beautiful and luxuriant country, bounded by the distant view of hills and mountains.

In the reign of Louis XVth the ruins of a fountain were discovered, at the foot of the *Tour Magne*, when it was rebuilt upon the model of the ancient one. It was by the conduit of the waters of this fountain that the Protestants introduced themselves into Nîmes, in 1569. In 1738 the remains of some superb baths were found, and a temple of Diana, so far in perfection as to point out the place where the victims were sacrificed, and even many of the niches for the different idols were perfect. But of all these Roman remains, the most perfect, as well as most beautiful, is the *Maison Carrée*. Crocus, king of the Vandals, in vain endeavoured to destroy it, and enraged at his want of success, he removed from the frise of the portal the bronze letters which marked its origin. But the academician *Séguier*, by tracing on paper the letters and the holes of the iron hooks which had supported them, discovered that the *Maison Carrée* was erected by the inhabitants of Nîmes, in honour of the two adopted sons of Augustus, Caius and Lucius. This beautiful building is a proof that simplicity is not incompatible with majesty; indeed, if we look at the works of nature, we shall find simplicity one of the chief ingredients in her most majestic

works. What can be more beautiful or grand than the view of the boundless ocean, the blue vault of heaven, a distant and extensive forest, an extended plain, &c. where the mind seems to extend far beyond the corporeal vision. But to return to the *Maison Carrée*, which, beautiful as it is, shrinks into less than nothing, when compared with the works of the great Architect of heaven and earth. A peristyle of thirty fluted columns, of the Corinthian order, the capitals of which are composed of the olive leaf, runs round the building, forming an agreeable covered walk: the height of these columns is twenty-seven feet. The *Maison Carrée* stands in the middle of the town, in almost as good preservation as in the time of Augustus. The Augustine monks bestowed much pains in its preservation, and in the reign of Louis XIVth it was converted into a church.

The amphitheatre denominated *les Barches* is a wonderful production of art. Its form is that of an ellipse, 462 feet long, and its height about sixty-four feet: it is divided into a double row of column and porticoes. Most of its ornaments are in good preservation. Thirty-two rows of seats in the interior were destined for spectators, but there are now hardly seventeen of these that can be discovered. The contemplation of this imposing building captures up many a gorgeous assemblage of the great ones of this world, many a dreadful scene of wanton bloodshed. It may well be called by *Le Franc de Pompignan*—

• Monument qui transmet à la postérité,
• Et leur magnificence et leur férocité.

The Greeks, in this respect, were superior to the Romans; they never found sport in the massacre of hundreds of their fellow-creatures, compelled to murder each other without any incentive but the cruelty of their masters. The heart sickens at such cruelties, committed by a people priding themselves on their learning, their courage, their generosity.

The Spanish bull fights, and many other cruel sports still in existence in many parts of Europe, may be traced to the Roman games and shows. The inhabitants in the neighbourhood of *Nîmes*, for instance, have a game which savours much of cruelty, and bears a strong resemblance to one still kept up in some parts of England on Whitmonday. The French game is however a daily amusement. A cock is tied to a stake in the middle of the

road, having about two feet of string left: the master of the cock sells, at a farthing a-piece, stones, as big as an ordinary-sized apple, which the purchaser is permitted to fling at the poor animal, from the distance of twenty-five feet: the flingers take their regular turn, and he who kills the bird takes it home for his supper.

The Vandals and the Saracens fortified themselves in the arena of the amphitheatre, and the ruins of the castle were to be seen a short time ago, which was destroyed by *Charles Martel*. He used his utmost efforts to reduce the amphitheatre itself to a heap of ruins by fire, but it resisted his efforts; and in the religious wars, which have so frequently devastated this part of France, it has afforded an asylum, in turn, to both parties, from the fury of their enemies and conquerors.

Nîmes has a considerable commerce in silks, stuffs, silk stockings, velvets, &c. Its territory produces silk, kermes, medicinal herbs, brandy, and olive oil; it also possesses tanneries, and is celebrated in the art of dyeings.

Long. $1^{\circ} 58' 39''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 4' 12''$. One hundred and fifty-two leagues south-east from Paris.

Aymargues, now an insignificant place, was the spot chosen by Saint Louis for the rendezvous of his crusade army, and further south is *Ayguesmorte*, where he built a pharos, called *Tour de Constance*, (now converted into a prison;) and from whence he embarked for the holy war. The *Tour de Constance* is now distant two leagues from the sea. Upon the *Vidourle* is seated the small town of Sauve, the birth-place of Florian.

Saint Hippolyte is a small town, with no other claims to notice, than that which it derives from the indiscretion of its inhabitants, who, having insulted a priest, who was carrying the host, gave Louis XIV. an ostensible reason for accomplishing what he had long desired, viz. the revocation of the edict of Nantes. From such small causes, do great effects proceed.

Pont St. Esprit, upon the Rhone, is a flourishing town, which owes its origin to a small chapel erected to *Le Saint Esprit*, to which pilgrims used to resort from all parts of the country: in the course of time a few cottages were erected, and the offerings presented at the convent soon become so great, as to afford the means for building a bridge, and in the year 1235, the great work commenced; but this bridge lasted but 74 years, the

rapidity of the Rhone having carried away the arches: at length it was resolved to erect a stone bridge, consisting of 26 arches, which might resist the strength of the current, by forming an elbow, or salient angle, to the stream: but even this is so insecure, that the carts and carriages always cross it empty; the luggage being conveyed on a kind of sledge.

At *Saint Felix*, in the *arrondissement* of *Vigan*, there is a fountain, which was formerly called the *Fontaine corrosive*, because if a leaf, or the body of a small animal, were thrown into it, the next day it would appear as a perfect skeleton: this was attributed to the nature of the waters; but it has since been ascertained, that minute insects, somewhat resembling a shrimp, and called by the inhabitants of the country *Quinque tailles*, are the anatomists of this fountain.

In *Provence*, as well as in Italy, Christmas night is celebrated with great pomp. The markets and shops are illuminated with coloured lamps, adorned with branches of trees, flags, ribands of all colours, and festoons of gold and silver paper. The largest log of wood that can be found, is selected in every house, and amidst the acclamations of the children, it is brought with ceremony, and laid in the principal fire-place. There it is lighted, after having been sprinkled with wine and oil. Every family that night, assembles *au reveillon* at the house of one of its most ancient members. Peace and joy preside at this repast; it is there hatred terminates, and angry spirits are reconciled; there, love begins, and marriages are decided. Each one brings his dish, accompanied by sentiments of love and of benevolence. The king of the feast, conformably to ancient customs, selects a portion of the best viands, and places them in an empty apartment, as an offering to deceased friends. The next day these viands are given to the poor.

6.—DEPARTMENT OF LOZÈRE.

This is an inland department (S.), composed of that part of Languedoc called *Givaudan* and *Velay*.

SOIL.—This department, with *Cantal*, forms the most elevated points in France; the soil is barren and stony; the small valleys which lie between the mountains produce only rye, potatoes, and a pasturage for sheep, the wool of which is highly prized.

FORESTS.—These consist chiefly of chesnut trees, in the fruit of which the inhabitants find their principal food : the mulberry tree is likewise cultivated in some places.

MOUNTAINS.—These consist of branches of the *Cevennes*.

RIVERS.—The *Tarn*, *Lot*, *Allier*, and many smaller streams, fertilize the valleys.

MINES.—Iron, copper, silver, lead, and antimony, are found in this department, as well as coal.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, dependent upon the bishopric of Mende. There are many Protestants in this part of France.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz *Mende*, *Marjérols*, and *Florac*. The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Nîmes, and it is comprised in the ninth military division.

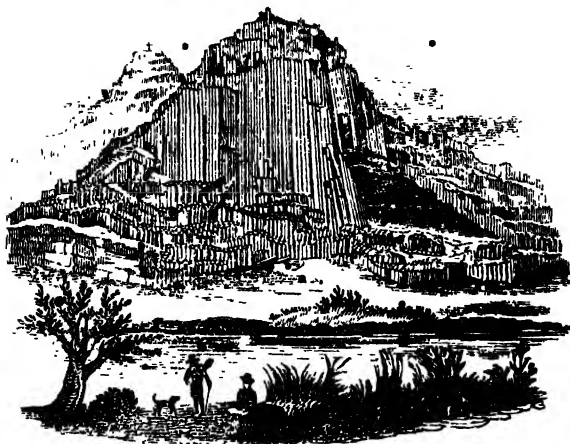
CHIEF TOWNS.

MENDE is situated in a little plain : it is built in the form of a heart, and contains about 5,000 inhabitants ; the streets are narrow and disagreeable, though they are ornamented with many pretty fountains. The steeple of its cathedral is much admired.

Between *Saint Chely* and *Mende* is the small village of *Jarrie*, formerly a large town, called *Gabali* : it was early converted to Christianity. One of its bishops, *Saint Prival*, on the invasion of Crocus, King of the Vandals, being taken prisoner, and refusing to reveal to the conqueror the secret hiding-place of his flock, suffered martyrdom from the hands of the Vandals. Near to *Mende*, the hermitage is still pointed out, whither he retired upon the approach of Crocus.

Long. $1^{\circ} 9' 32''$; lat. $44^{\circ} 20' 47''$. One hundred and thirty leagues south-south-east from Paris.

This department contains two other towns, *Marjérols* and *Florac*. The former carries on a considerable manufacture of serges, which are called *Serges de Mende*, because they are conveyed to that place, and are from thence circulated. The latter, *Florac*, abounds in fruits and grain, but not wheat.



Orgues d'Espailly.

7.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE LOIRE.

This is an inland department. (S.E.)

HAUTE LOIRE is composed of *Velay*, a part of *Viverrais*, and *Gerandon* in *Langedoc*; of a part of *Auvergne* and of *Forez* in *Lyonnois*.

SOIL.—Three-fifths of this department rest upon a granitic base, the two other fifths, are the production of volcanic eruptions: the bottom of the valleys are generally fertile, but the rocks and mountains are perfectly barren.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains are a continuous intersecting chain of those called *de l'Auvergne*. The summit of the mountain denominated *Le Rocher de Corneille*, is the most curious among them: it presents many different and fantastic forms, from the point of view from which it is beheld. When seen from the road of *Lyon*, near *Saint Jean*, it resembles a rabbit in its form; and beneath this imagined animal, is a profile, with an aquiline nose, a projecting moustache, and a lengthened chin, which has received the name of *Henri Quatre*; the ruff is even depicted by a circle of bushes close round and beneath the chin. Many curious caves, said by the learned to have been occupied by the Druids, are to be seen in the sides of these mountains, particularly at *Couteaux* and *Géysac*.

FORESTS.—The pine, the oak, the fir and the beech, form the constituent parts of the forests of the *Haute Loire*, which are extensive.

LAKES.—The lake of *Bouchet* is the principal one; it is situated between the villages of *Cayres* and *Bouchet*, to the south of the town of *Puy*: its form is that of a cup, 13,000 feet in circumference, and about 74 feet deep; it has no apparent issue.

RIVERS.—The *Allier* and the *Loire* are the chief rivers of this mountainous department.

MINES.—The subterraneous treasures of this department are very numerous. They consist of granite, quartz, marble, pit-coal, iron, copper, zinc, lead, antimony, but the mines of the two latter are the only ones which are worked; many crystalized stones, such as sapphires, hyacinths, amethysts, tourmalines, jasper, &c. are found in different parts.

MINERAL WATERS.—There is no establishment in the *Haute Loire* for the accommodation of visitors, but the department contains many salt, acidulated, and gaseous springs.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Among these the members of the ancient family of *Polignac* are conspicuous; *Le Sayerette*, *Arnaudainé*, the statuary *Julian*, and the painter *François Gui*, known in Italy under the name of *Guidi-Franzisco*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. It forms part of the diocese of *Puy*. The Protestants have a consistorial church, upon which depend three pastors, besides two temples, or houses of prayer.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. *Le Puy*, *Brionde*, *Yssengeaux*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Riom*. It is comprised in the nineteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Le Puy.—Its principal street is that of *Les Tables*, which leads to the cathedral. This building, though not perhaps distinguished for its elegance, yet its situation and boldness of design are admirable. From the town it looks as if it were suspended in the air. This church is dedicated to *Notre-Dame*. The ascent to it is curious: after traversing many inclined planes on the side of the mountain, a vaulted part of the rock projects forward, upon which a large portion of the cathedral stands; from this vault a flight of one hundred and eighteen steps presents itself, winding under the church, until a folding door, carved in

bronze, and ornamented with columns and pilasters of porphyry, opens into the middle of the nave of the church. The effect produced is singular by this entrance from beneath. The interior possesses nothing worthy of much attention. The steeple, built, like the rest of the church, of volcanic stones, rises to the height of two hundred feet. It formerly contained many precious relics, and it was the resort of numerous pilgrims. The situation of *Le Puy* is happily chosen, commanding three valleys, through which pass three great high roads: the one leads to *Clermont*; another to *Lyons*; and the third to the more southern departments. It still carries on a small trade in lace, for which, in days of yore, it was famous, and blond: 70,000 hands are employed in this work. The manufacture of blankets, counterpanes, leathern bags for bottles for wine, pins, muslins, and pottery, are likewise productive. Many horses and mules are reared in its neighbourhood. It is the country of the Counts de Polignac.

Long. $1^{\circ} 33' 21''$ Lat. $45^{\circ} 25' 2''$. One hundred and thirty-three leagues south-east from Paris.

To the north-west of this town rises the *Mont St. Michel de Puy*, upon the summit of which is a chapel, dedicated to St. Michel; it is surrounded by a parapet, upon which is pointed out the print of a girl's foot, who took a dangerous leap from the summit of this needle rock to prove her innocence!

Small pellets of gold, hyacinths, *lapis lycuricus*, and sapphires, are found in the stream *Reouzeouillons*.

In the mountainous parts of this department, *Fay-le-froid*, or at *Estables*, the cold is very great, and the houses remain buried under the snow for three or four months together. During this period the inhabitants have not any communication with each other, except by vaulted passages cut through the snow. If any one should die during this inclement season, the body is buried in the snow until the milder season returns. In some villages the beasts and their masters inhabit the same cabin. These poor people are indebted to their four-footed friends for much of the warmth they enjoy. Their food is principally composed of radishes, potatoes, and barley and rye bread; a bit of bacon or cheese is a great luxury among them. They light large splinters of the pine tree, to enlighten their homely habitation. This department displays many volcanic remains, and much of that wild scenery which results naturally from

earthquakes in mountainous regions: immense blocks of basalt in every various form that can be imagined, are sometimes seen for miles together, and what is very curious, the blocks always lie from east to west. There are also many large basalt balls, a form not very common for basalt, found in the neighbourhood of *Pradelles*, and one piece of lava, partly encrusted in a mass of tall columns, and partly projecting beyond them, has very much the form of a boot.

Towards the frontiers of Auvergne and Velay, upon the high rock of Polignac, there was formerly a temple of Apollo, famous for its oracles. The time of its foundation ascends to the first years of the Christian era, since, in the year 47, the Emperor Claudius came hither in great pomp, to acknowledge the power of the god; and he left proofs of his piety and munificence. The debris and mysterious issues that are found even now upon the rock, in the heart of its environs, reveal the secret means employed by the priests to make their oracles speak, and to impose upon the people. At the bottom of the rock was an ædícula: it was on this spot that the pilgrims took up their first station, and deposited their offerings and made their vows. A subterranean passage communicated from this ædícula to the bottom of a great excavation, pierced in the form of a tunnel, from the base to the summit of the rock. It was by this enormous opening that the vows, the prayers and questions, pronounced in the very lowest voice by the pilgrims, reached instantly the top of the rock, and were there heard and collected by the college of priests; the answers were then prepared, while the believers, by a sinuous and long path, slowly arrived at the end of their pilgrimage. The answers being ready, the priests commissioned to transmit them repaired to profound and deep apartments, contiguous to a well, the orifice of which terminated in the temple. This well, crowned by an altar, being enclosed by a little hemispherical roof, supported in its external parts, the colossal figure of Apollo; the mouth of this statue being half open, in the middle of a large and majestic beard, appeared always ready to pronounce the supreme decrees. It was also through this opening, by the means of a long speaking-trumpet, that the priests at the bottom of this den of mystery and superstition made known those famous oracles so imposing and so powerful in their effects upon the human soul as to impede for

centuries the substitution of the more pure and holy precepts of the gospel.

In the commune of *Boissiere*, which is separated from the surrounding parishes by vast heaths, many old customs are preserved, particularly those which relate to marriage. The young man, when he has seen a young girl that pleases his fancy, repairs to her home at night, and under her window he sings the following stanza:—

*Il ne fait point clair de lune,
Belle, levez vous,
Tandis que la nuit est brune
Venez danser avec moi.*

If the young girl reply,—

*Il fait trop clair de lune,
Garçon laissez nous ;
La nuit n'est pas assez brune,
Pour que je danse avec vous,*

the lover retires without hope; but if she chaunt the following lines, at her open window, it is a sign he is accepted:—

*Pourquoi, l'amiant, venir ainsi
Troubler mon sommeil?
Je n'entends point quand il fait nuit,
Venez au reveil.*

The lover must repeat his nocturnal visits fifteen nights running.

There is, perhaps, no place in the world where a good name is considered a richer inheritance than in this department: the errors of the female part of the community press heavily upon their descendants; their faults are, indeed, written on brass, and in praising the beauty and discretion of a young woman who has the misfortune to be descended from an ancestor whose name is tinctured with dishonour, it is not unusual to hear the following observation, "Yes, she is very good and discreet; but what a pity that her grandmother should have misconducted herself; there is a stain in that family!" What an incentive to virtue, if virtue were in itself not so lovely.

The houses consist of two apartments: the outer one is appropriated to implements of industry, and the inner one to the master and mistress and their children: the beds are placed round the room, and inclosed by curtains. In the winter evenings the family assemble round the fire-place; two benches placed in the chimney corners are occupied by the men, who

employ themselves in repairing their implements of husbandry; the women spin, knit, &c.; while the children are terrified and amused at the same time by the stories of apparitions, and warnings to avoid certain places where *Lutin*, takes the form of a ram, *Louis Courtois*, a great phantom, whose voice portends death to the hearer, &c. &c.

8.—DEPARTMENT OF ARDÈCHE.

This is an inland department (S.E.), composed of the ancient *Vivaraïs*.

SOIL.—The country is mountainous and fertile, generally speaking, though its soil is so varied as to consist of a mixture of lava, sand, and basalt. There is scarcely one valley in the department of the extent of a league, if we except the long narrow strip of land that borders the Rhone on each of its banks.

MOUNTAINS.—These are ramifications of the Cevennes, which form a vast amphitheatre, gradually diminishing in height towards the Rhone. They are calcareous near the Rhone, granitic and volcanic in the west of the department.

FORESTS.—The ancient forests of *Vivaraïs* formerly covered all the western part of the country, and were rich in the oak, maple, ash, birch, and alder tree. The pine, the fir, and the beech now form the principal ingredients of the forests that remain.

RIVERS.—The *Ardèche*, the *Erieux*, and the *Poux*, are the principal rivers. The *Loire* and the *Allier* rise in this department.

LAKES, &c.—There are a few ponds and lakes scattered in various parts of the Ardèche, many of them appear to occupy the craters of extinct volcanoes. The chief among these is that of *Issarles*; its circumference is about 9,000 feet.

MINES.—The silver mines of *Argentière* have ceased to be worked since the discovery of America. There are indications of copper at *Saint Laurent-les-Bains*, of lead, in the environs of *Journan*, antimony at *Malbois*, and at *La Voulte* there is a very rich iron mine. Granite, marble, gypsum, lava, &c. &c. abound.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are a great many mineral waters in this department, and there are two establishments for the accommodation of visitors. The waters of the one at *Saint*

Laurent are hot, and are highly beneficial in paralytic and rheumatic affections. Those at *Vals* are cold, and contain carbonic acid, soda, urarine salt, and oxyde of iron.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Bussy-d'Anglas*, one of the deputies of the States General, a man distinguished alike for his talents and virtues; two poets of the name of *Fabre*; the *Marquis de la Fare*; *Olivier de Serres*, who first propagated and cultivated the mulberry tree; *Cardinal de Tournon*, minister of Francis I., a great persecutor of the Protestants, but nevertheless a man of great abilities.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, dependent upon the Bishop of Viviers. The Protestants possess five consistorial churches, to which sixteen pastors are attached. The department contains, likewise, several bible societies, houses of evangelical mission, and seven Protestant schools.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Privas*, *Tournon*, and *Argentière*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Nîmes, and it is comprised in the ninth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

PRIVAS is the seat of the prefecture, but it is nevertheless an insignificant town. Henry II. bestowed it on Diana of Poitiers, his mistress, and, in the year 1629, Louis XIII. besieged and captured it, and gave it up to pillage. The unfortunate inhabitants, who were Protestants, retired to the fort de *Tholon*; since which period it has been gradually recovering its claims to the title of town, but it contains no one object of interest; indeed the towns of this department derive all their celebrity from their proximity to some one or other of the great works of dame Nature, ever grand and always imposing, even in her smallest productions.

Long. 2° 16'; lat. 34° 5'.

ANNONAY.—This town suffered much during the Albigensian persecution; it has been seven or eight times captured, pillaged, and burnt; and once or twice the horrors of famine and the plague have rendered it desolate. It is indebted for its present prosperity to *Messieurs Montgolfier* and *Johannot*, whose manufactory of paper employs a great number of hands. It is said the excellence of these papers is derived from the purity of the waters of the rivers *la Cance* and *la Deume*. In 1783, on the

5th of June, the first balloon ascended from *Ann-hoy*: it rose to the height of 1,000 toises; it was made of cloth, lined with paper.

Long. $2^{\circ} 22'$; lat. $45^{\circ} 15'$.

TOURNON.—In the time of Gregory of *Tours*, part of a mountain in the neighbourhood of this town fell into the Rhone, and compelled it on the instant to form a new passage. Two months previous to this accident, the most fearful noises had been heard, and the inhabitants of a castle and of a convent in its immediate environs, though greatly alarmed, yet unable to account for this phenomenon, and thus unable to escape from the unknown danger that threatened them, became its victims, for both these buildings disappeared, with all their inmates. Two monks, who were absent at the time, when they returned to *Tournon*, immediately commenced a search for their former dwelling and friends. Having made some considerable excavations, they discovered an iron mine; the spirit of cupidity seized them; they now diligently continued to enlarge the aperture they had made, hoping to find wealth and riches, but they found a grave, for the remainder of the mountain suddenly fell, and buried them beneath its ruins.

AUBENAS is a pretty little town, situated on the *Ardèche*. Its milk winder is a curious piece of mechanism, invented by *Vaucanson*. It consists of three wheels, turned by the waters of the *Ardèche*, which put in action thirty-six frames, consisting of six double rows of spindles. The soil of *Aubenas* produces vines, truffles, olives, figs, and the chesnuts which are sold at Paris as chesnuts of Lyons.

ARGENTIÈRE was formerly productive of silver, and hence its name; but the mines are now exhausted. Upon all the heights around it are the remains of towers, formerly belonging to the proprietors who used to work those mines. Nothing now remains of the former splendour of *Argentière* but its name.

In its neighbourhood is a grotto, composed of several chambers, some of which are not accessible. In the third and principal chamber, as it appears, there is a lake of still and pellucid water covered with a thin whitish crust; upon removing this crust, the clear waters remain a few minutes visible, but they then quickly disappear, by the rapid formation of the filmy substance which soon acquires the consistence of that displaced. The approach to this lake is difficult and somewhat dangerous, for its banks

slope considerably, and one false step would precipitate the curious stranger into the fearful gulf.

The little town of *ROCHEMAURE* is interesting, from the industry and perseverance which its founders must have displayed in its erection. All the houses are built with the remains of an ancient volcano; columns of basalt serve as door-steps, and even as in-door stairs: the frames of the doors and windows are formed of basaltic prisms; several houses are absolutely erected against vast masses of lava, and flat slabs of the same material constitute the roofs. The old castle of *Rochemaure*, which was erected upon the extinguished remains of a volcano, is now falling into ruins, and from the summit of its donjon, the eye loses almost the power of distinction, as it views the immense and confused heaps of lava, and numerous basaltic columns of all sizes and forms that lie scattered around. That range, called *Pavé des géants*, forms a symmetrical colonnade, six hundred feet long, and forty high, along the foot of the mountain.



Bridge of Arc.

LE PONT D'ARC, at the south-east of this valley, presents a grand and sublime object. Two high mountains in the form of a peak, confine the river *Ardèche* on either side; a single block

of grey marble, wedged in between these rocks, two hundred feet above the river, forms an arch one hundred and sixty-three feet wide, and eighty feet high, from the level of the waters. The entire height from the bottom of the water to the summit of this natural bridge, is two hundred feet.

The Ardèche is a tumultuous torrent, not wide, but so impetuous, as to excite a considerable degree of awe in the spectator: it is formed by thirty-six small streams that flow from different summits of the mountain, falling in cascades from peak to peak, until they unite in one common stream: it is then that their concentrated force produces a powerful effect. The Ardèche rushes rapidly along, until it reaches *le Roy Pie*, from whence it falls headlong, from a height of one hundred and twenty feet, into a large basin, which has evidently been formed by its falling waters. They whose nerves are equal to the undertaking, can pass between this rush of waters and the rock, without danger or inconvenience. But it is in winter, that this fall presents the most magical appearance, when the waters of the basin, rough and foaming, yield to the stern influence of the father of frost and storms. Then

“ The dumb cascade,
“ Whose idle torrents seem to roar,”

It lies in the sun-beam like a vast crystal arch:—silent, motionless it stands, until the genial southern gales breathe life and warmth, and motion—and then indeed

Resistless, roaring, dreadful, down it comes
From the rude mountains, and the mossy wild,
Tumbling through rocks abrupt, and sounding far;
Then o'er the sanded valley floating spreads,
Calm, sluggish, silent; till again, constrained
Between two meeting hills, it bursts away,
Where rocks and woods exchange the turbid stream;
Then gathering triple force, rapid, and deep,
It boils, and wheels, and foams, and thunders through.*

The grotto of *Valon*, in this neighbourhood, presents the greatest variety of form in stalactites of any in France. The entrance to it is so very low, that persons are obliged to lie down

* Thomson's Winter.

on the ground, and drag themselves along in the manner of a serpent. On first entering the grot, either the sight is so deceived, or the peculiar situation in which a stranger is placed, on entering these subterraneous regions, has such an effect on the imagination, that the distant masses of stalactites are frequently and easily mistaken for phantoms of a grotesque form, to which the waving light of the torches gives apparent motion. The gulf *de la Goule* is situated in a valley surrounded by the mountains of *Uzège*, which preserve a picture wild and grand. Seven little streams unite in the plain, and forming one stream, fall over the precipice of the *Goule* into a basin, over the edge of which they roll into a second; and a third cascade conveys them into a third basin, where the eye loses sight of the waters; but still the ear can distinguish their course in a deeper fall into the lower gulf: after many unknown subterraneous wanderings under ground, the river bursts forth near the *Pont d'Arc*, where, after a short course, it mingles its streams with the waters of the *Ardèche*.

The crater of *Saint Léger* forms a part of the great volcanic chain in the south of France, in which the several wonders already described, are to be found. The valley is composed of cultivated plains and sheets of mineral waters, cold and hot; the former issuing from the heights, the latter from the volcanic plain. The crater is circular, and is enclosed by granite rocks, disposed in the form of an amphitheatre, surmounted by peaks; it is distinguished from that of most other volcanoes, because its elevation is very trifling; being placed at the foot of a mountain, and in a valley, through the middle of which flows the *Ardèche*. This crater is in fact a kind of sieve, through which exude mephitic vapours of so deadly a nature, that should any thing that breathes come in contact with it, death ensues. The philosopher *Soulavie* placed a cat within it, and the poor animal died in less than two minutes. This mephitic vapour appears on the surface of the earth, about a foot and a half high, never higher: it rises to the surface of the water, as bubbles, which the slightest wind disperses; rains and fogs either absorb it, or confine it within the subterraneous laboratory of the mountain. The holes from which it exudes in the earth, if not constantly cleaned, would become absolute reservoirs of the pestilential gas, which would eventually suck up the soil, and render it barren. This crater

should be properly distinguished by the word *Solfatera*, which implies a volcano not totally at rest. These are the principal among the wonders of this wonderful department: it contains many grottoes besides those mentioned; but it would be but a repetition of the same kind of phenomena were they all to be described.

SECTION XVI.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF BEARNE,

IS NOW THE

DEPARTMENT OF BASSES PYRÉNÉES.

SOIL. is fruitful, and of various descriptions, producing maize, the vine, the chestnut, the oak, poplar, firs of every description, and flowers in abundance.

RIVERS.—This department is watered by many rivers and *gaves*, as the streams of this part of France are sometimes and in some places called. Among these the *Adour*, which, by its junction with the *Nive*, forms the port of *Bayonne*. The *Bidassoa*, which separates the frontiers of France and Spain, and the *Nivelle*, which rises in Spain, and flowing northward, forms the port of *Saint Jean de Luz*. The *Gave de Pau* is among the most remarkable streams for its picturesque effect: it rises in the *Hautes Pyrénées*, at the superb cascade of *Gavernie*, at the height of 1,266 feet above the plain: before it unites itself to the *Adour* it receives the *Gave d'Oleron*, which issues from the valley of *Aspe*. These rivers are navigable a few leagues only from their mouths.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Pyrénées*, which separate it from Spain. Its superficies contains about 763,990 acres.

MINES.—This department contains mines of copper, iron, sulphur, and cobalt; quarries of slate, marble, and granite. At *Saint Jean Pied de Port* there are traces of a silver mine. There is also a mine of *whitë*, a stone more precious than marble, ornamented with clouds of light and dark green. It somewhat

resembles serpentine, strikes fire with steel, and is exceedingly valuable and curious.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Eaux Brunes* there are four warm springs, particularly efficacious in pulmonary complaints. At *Eaux Chaudes* there are six springs of divers temperature: the waters, which are colourless and limpid, are highly beneficial in rheumatic and paralytic affections. At *Cambo* there is a sulphurous spring and an iron spring. These waters are drunk only; they are considered highly curative in their nature for all kinds of wounds. There is also in the commune de *Salies* a fountain, the waters of which yield, on evaporation, a great quantity of the finest salt. It is said the excellent quality of the hams of Bayonne arises from their being cured with this salt.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Vicomte d'Orthi*, who dared to disobey the orders of Charles IX. at the time of the massacre of Saint Bartholomew; *Henry IV.* of France; *Jean de Gassion*, a celebrated warrior; *Bernadotte*, elected King of Sweden in 1818; *Lafitte*, the celebrated banker, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Bayonne*, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Bayonne. The Protestants possess at *Orthes* a consistorial church, divided into five sections, under the control of five ministers, as *Orthes*, *Bellroy*, *Salies*, *Sauveterre*, and *Ossé*. The department contains, likewise, bible and missionary societies. There are many Jews in this part of France; they have a synagogue at Bayonne.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Pau*, *Oleron*, *Orthes*, *Mauléon*, *St. Palais*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Pau*. It is comprised in the eleventh military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

PAU is the chief town of this department. It was the birth-place of Henry IV., and from this circumstance it derives its interest. The castle was built by *Henri d'Albret*, grandfather of Henry.

“Berceau du grand Henri, mon cœur, à ton aspect,
S'est senti tout-à-coup pénétré de respect,
Tes vieux murs ont pour moi conservé mille charmes,
De mes yeux, malgré moi, coulent de douces larmes,
Helas! en te voyant, je regrette à la fois
Et le plus tendre père, et le meilleur des rois.”

The evening before quitting this castle, at a *ymé* when his return was uncertain, from the distracted state of France, Henry repaired to the neighbouring village of *Billeré* where his nurse resided, and, with tears in his eyes, he took an affectionate leave of her. The old nurse, when she had recovered the emotion which this separation excited, went to the door to look after her beloved child; he had stopped at a short distance, and was stooping down; she advanced softly behind him; he was carrying the following words on a stone,—

“*Le Henri fut nourri.*”

The only article manufactured at Pau is that of handkerchiefs, called *Mouchoirs de Béarn*. The views from this town are very beautiful. There have been lately discovered in its neighbourhood some very fine quarries of alabaster.

Long. West $2^{\circ} 43'$; lat. $43^{\circ} 17'$. Two hundred and seven leagues south-west from Paris.

BAYONNE is situated at the mouth of the *Adour*, at its confluence with the *Nive*. On the south side of the river a bridge divides it from *Saint Esprit*, which is in *les Landes*. Bayonne is well fortified; the entrance to its port is difficult; it has one peculiar advantage, that of being placed on the only two rivers in France which ebb and flow with regular tides. It is the centre of commerce and exchange between France and Spain. The exports to the peninsula consist principally of linen from *Montauban*; cloths and stuffs from *Lions*; ribbons, mercery, and iron-ware; and it receives in return Spanish wool, oils, wines, iron, chocolate, and ingots of gold and silver. Its hams are very celebrated; they are brought from *les Landes*, and cured at Bayonne with white salt from the springs in the neighbourhood of the little town of *Sakies*, in the department of the *Basses Pyrénées*. The brandies of *Andaye* are in great repute, under the name of Bayonne brandies. The *bayonet* takes its name from this town. Between Bayonne and *St. Jean de Luz* there are many prodigious grottoes in the rocks along the sea shore; they present the most wild and fearful caverns, into which the sea dashes with violence, when the north winds blow. The most celebrated of these caverns is that called *Chambre d'Amour*, from the following circumstance. Two lovers, whose parents objected to an union between them, forsook the paternal roof, and took

refuge in these caves, until the search for them should have passed away; but, in the mean time, a tempest arose, and the asylum they had chosen became their tomb. What must have been their sensations, as the rushing winds and foaming waves followed them to the utmost extremity of these dark abodes of terror! their accusing consciences increasing the agony which the approach of death, under such circumstances, must at all times produce; indeed it seems quite impossible to analyse or describe the despairing anguish that must have seized these unhappy victims of passion, when the thoughts of their parents, their home, their own undutiful conduct, rushed upon them, and brought along with them the overwhelming reflection, that, but for their own misconduct, they had never encountered such a fearful destiny.

Long. West $3^{\circ} 48' 48''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 29' 15''$. Two hundred and five leagues south-west from Paris.

SAINT JEAN PIED DE PORT.—It is necessary to observe here that all the passes in the Pyrénées, between France and Spain, are called *Ports*. Not far from this town, upon the borders of the forest d'Irats, the shepherds found a savage, or rather wild man; he was covered with hair. They laid several plans to catch him, but he was so agile he always escaped their toils. His great delight arose from the terror with which he inspired the flocks and herds: as they fled at his approach, he would pursue them, shouting and laughing immoderately.

MAULEON.—*Saint Jean de Luz*, with *Andoye* and *Bédache*, constituted formerly the country of *les Basques*, whose language and manners are totally different from those of all other countries, except Biscay in Spain.* The name these people first gave the barren country they chose as their resting-place, whatever their

* It is said the Mexican language bore the strongest resemblance to it of any other language. If so, may the Mexicans not be of Phœnician origin? It is certain, when Cortez arrived in Mexico, that his appearance caused the greatest alarm not only from the fear which was the natural consequence of their appearance and fire arms, but from a prophecy which had been handed down among them from the earliest ages, that *strangers from the rising sun should subdue and conquer them.*" From this circumstance many antiquarians have imagined that Mexico was peopled by a colony of these great navigators, and that this prophecy arose from the conviction in their own minds, that others of their adventurous countrymen would follow their example.

origin, was Iberia, derived from two *Basque* words, *eria beria*, meaning *new country*. The difficulties they surmounted, on their first arrival, must indeed have been considered insuperable, but for the spirit which induced them to seek refuge in these wilds, either from persecution, the horrors of war, or the love of change. Whether they be the descendants from a colony of Phœnicians, or whether they be the descendants of the original inhabitants of the peninsula, cannot be decided; but the former supposition appears the more probable, from the fact that their language is peculiar to themselves, and that it bears no affinity to that of any other language: no trace of the Phœnician language now remains, except in a comedy of Terence; if there were, this fact might elucidate the mystery. They were brave and independent, jealous of their liberty, and during the invasions of the Romans, the Huns, the Goths, and the Vandals, they seem to have inspired their fierce invaders with feelings of respect. Clovis himself could never subdue them, and finally sought their friendship. Proud, yet gentle, intrepid and generous, vigilant and pacific, contented with his lot, the Bascanian never sought to extend his possessions, but merely to defend them, and preserve his own independence; hospitable and friendly to the distressed, he gave shelter to the Goths when they were driven by the Saracens from Spain, or by the Normans, Franks, and other barbarous nations from the northern parts of Gaul, to seek shelter in the mountains of the Pyrénées; but the pride of the Bascanians would never permit them to form any alliance with these refugees. In some few instances, however, the softer feelings of our nature rose paramount to those of pride; and there are, even in these days, families descended from these unions, who live in separate hamlets, and are distinguished by the name of *Agoths* or *Agothors*. But this feeling of contempt for all other people on the part of the Bascanians is more strongly portrayed by the circumstance, that there is a basin of holy water placed outside many of the churches, where the *Agoths* kneel and pray and take holy water, without mingling with the *prière* Bascanians! So near are our virtues allied to vices, that independence becomes pride; economy, avarice; liberality, extravagance; and so on.

Although the Bascanians always acted on the defensive only, they were distinguished by their bravery; and Strabo, in speaking

of them, says, "*they were superior to all other nations at a coup de main*," and they seem to have considered this as a very important as well as effective point in their own character. The very name they have assumed, and to which the peasants alone will answer, is a proof of this; it is not that of *Basque*, but *Escoual Dounac*, the meaning of which is *bons du côté de la main*. They so completely resist all innovation, that their priests are chosen from among themselves, and preach in the *Basque* language. They marry early in life, for the beauty of the women soon passes away. The name the young girls give their lovers is *chenarguin* (*étouffe de mari*).

ORTHEZ, seated on the *Gazé de Pau*, was formerly a very flourishing town, while in possession of the Protestants; but the religious wars have ruined its prosperity: it still, however, carries on a tolerable trade in leather, thread, corn, cloths, linen, salt, and iron wire. Slate, coal, sulphur, and petroly are found in its neighbourhood.

Long. 3° 6'; Lat. 43° 31'.

SECTION XVII.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF COMTÉ DE FOIX,

CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT OF ARRIÈGE.

THIS is a frontier department (S.), composed principally of the *Pays de Foix Cousserans*, and a small portion of *Gascogne* and *Languedoc*.

SOIL.—In a physical point of view, this department resembles the other Pyrenean provinces, except that the *Pyrénées* that bound and intersect it, are less elevated than those designated *Hautes Pyrénées*; beautiful valleys, generally extending from north to south, afford excellent pasturage, and some of the mountains possess the same advantage even to their very summits, while others, at an elevation of eight or nine thousand feet, are covered with perpetual snows.

RIVERS.—Five principal rivers traverse *l'Arriège*; viz. the *Arriège*, the *Arisè*, the *Arget*, the *Salat*, and the *Lers*.

MINES.—There are several iron mines, which produce abundance of this useful metal; and formerly, in the time of the Romans, silver was also found in abundance in this part of France, and gold in smaller quantities. The rivers still produce *paillettes* of gold, seldom larger than a square superficies of two lines in breadth; and though many of the inhabitants prosecute the *fishery*, if this expression may be used, yet it scarcely rewards their labour. There is an isolated rock called *Mause*, near the peak of *Orlus*, which, when struck, gives back a sound like that produced by a blow upon brass; and for a long time it was considered as composed principally of that metal; but the opinion was erroneous—it really consists of loadstone, for the fragments present the phenomena of the north and south poles of the magnet.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Ax*, *Ussat*, and *Audinac*, there are establishments for the purpose of accommodating visitors who drink these waters. The waters of the two former are hot and sulphureous; those of the latter contain acid carbonic gas.

At *Camorade*, near to *Mas d'Azil*, are sufficient quantities of muriate of soda, to enable the inhabitants to extract salt by evaporation.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Foix*, there are Societies of Agriculture and the Arts: the latter publishes a journal.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Juques Fournie*, consecrated Pope by the name of Benet XII., was a native of this department. Many branches of the house of *Foix* distinguished themselves for their bravery, and one from his beauty, received the name of Phœbus. *Pierre Bayle*, the sceptical Bayle, General *Sarrut*, *Lafitte*, and General *Clauzel*, are also among the remarkable personages born in *l'Arriège*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Pamiers*.

The Protestants have also a consistorial church at *Mas d'Azil*, divided into six sections, the duties of which are performed by six pastors.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. *Foix*, *Pamiers*, and *Saint Giron*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Toulouse*. It is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Foix is the chief town of this department; a bridge over the Arriège, and an old castle, are the only objects to arrest the attention of the traveller: its inhabitants, however, boast of its antiquity, and affirm it was founded by a colony of Phocians, from Marseilles. perhaps, more just cause for boasting, in the bravery and martial exploits of its counts, who were for centuries distinguished by every quality which could adorn a knight.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 48'$; $43^{\circ} 2'$.

PAMIERS is a hard town, well built, and its general appearance is imposing. Roger II., Count of Foix, laid its foundation, in the eleventh century: in 1300, it was erected into a bishopric by Pope Boniface VIII., in favour of Bernard de Saissel. Philippe-le-bel refused, however, to acknowledge the prelate—the pope defended his bishop by his famous bull, called *Ausculta fili*: the king threw the bull into the fire, and the pope was arrested at Anagni, by Guillaume de Nogorel. When Boniface was informed that he was a prisoner, he replied, "Since I am, like Jesus Christ, betrayed, I will die like a pope." He accordingly put on his habit of ceremony, with all its ornaments, fully prepared to meet his death nobly; but the inhabitants rose in a body, and rescued him, and Boniface set off for Rome; but he died on his journey from fatigue, and the agitation he had gone through during his vexatious, though short captivity.

Long. West $0^{\circ} 43'$; lat. $42^{\circ} 8'$

MIREPOIX.—The environs of this town present many objects of interest; and among these, the *entonnoir*, a vast abyss in the form of a funnel, called *l'Entonnadou*, is conspicuous: it is situated near *le Puy du Till*, and the rivers of the valley flow into it: from the numerous apertures in the mountain, which the inhabitants call *Balaines*, there is a never-ceasing current of wind, which is sometimes soft as the gentlest zephyr, at others, fierce and rude as the blasts of Boreas, uprooting trees, and destroying every thing which attempts to resist its fury. This wind, known as *le vent de pas*, is, however, notwithstanding its

occasional ravages, deemed highly beneficial, tempering the heats of summer, and the colds of winter. In the summer the inhabitants carry their wine to these *baleines* to cool it, and as this wind is never felt until after sun-set, the farmers never winnow their corn until the evening. In former times, these winds were attributed to supernatural agency, and many strange stories were fabricated as to their origin; in these days, however, of enlightened research, it is attributed to the vapours arising from the waters which fall into the *Enfonnadou*. Pieces of cork, straws, and other light substances, thrown into this abyss, have been observed sometimes to issue from these *baleines*, proving a communication between the cavities *du Till* and this gulf. To the south of this valley, in the middle of a deep forest, rises the fountain *de Fontestorbes*, which flows without interruption during nine months of the year. In the months of July, August, and September, the nymph of this fountain withdraws herself from public gaze at intervals; sometimes for the space of little better than half an hour she totally disappears; then timidly appears, for the same space of time, and then again withdraws. But, if the season prove inclement and rainy, a roaring noise is heard, and the waters will suddenly burst forth, rushing with rapidity towards the *Lers*, which will, under their influence, overflow its banks for the space of two leagues.

Long. $0^{\circ} 27' 49''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 5' 19''$.

The valleys of this department produce fruit, and corn, and its pasture lands are rich and fertile; its mountains abound in lead, iron, alum, and amianthus. Gold too is found in small pellets in its rivers, and the name of *Arriège* is derived from *Auri-gera*, given by the Romans to the river in which they found the precious metal: at present, the quantity is so small, it is scarce worth the collecting, and the mines from which it is washed by the rivers, left untouched, the expense of working them being far beyond the means of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood; and no one seems inclined to speculate in their explosion. The alum mines afford employment to a number of persons, and some of the mountaineers weave the amianthus with a mixture of cotton or worsted, into garters: when they are thus completed, they are thrown into the fire, and the amianthus alone remains.

Vallées et Souveraineté de l'Andorre.

Situated upon the south side of the Pyrénées, beyond the limits of the French frontier, this valley appears more naturally to belong to Spain; but it may, in fact, be almost considered as neutral, belonging neither to France nor Spain; yet it is allied to the former, by its being governed by an officer called *Viguier*, chosen from the department of the Arriège, and an annual tax and a redevance of 669 francs annually; and it is connected with Spain, by its religious dependence upon the Bishop of *Urgel*, who exercises a spiritual jurisdiction, and receives a part of the *demes* or tenths of six parishes. It owes its independence as a republic to Charlemagne. In 790, this prince attacking the Moors in the *Vallée de l'Oral*, in the neighbourhood of the *Val d'Andorre*, received such assistance and support from the *Andorrans*, that the emperor made them independent of the surrounding petty princes, and permitted them to govern themselves, by their own laws. *Louis le Debonnaire*, whom the Andorrans call *le Picur*, assisted them in driving out the Moors, who had again attacked them, and granted to *Sisebus*, Bishop of *Urgel*, a portion of those rights *Charlemagne* had reserved for himself and successors. Henry IV. resumed these rights - in 1793, the Andorrans were set entirely at liberty; but in 1806, they solicited that the old order of things might be re-established; and on the 27th March of the same year, a decree was passed by Napoleon to that effect. During twelve centuries, this little republic has preserved its independence, and retained its institutions, amidst the political convulsions which desolated Europe for many years with fire and sword, and covered it with blood. Their manners are simple, grave, and their morals correct. They are a community of herdsmen, and the extent of their fortunes is known by the extent of their pasture lands. Every family acknowledges a chief in right of primogeniture, in the direct line. These chiefs choose their wives from a family equal in rank with their own; they make a point never to marry beneath them: thus does pride still remain paramount wherever man fixes his habitation! The eldest son, whatever his rank may be, is beloved and respected, as the representative of the rights of his ancestors. He does not quit the paternal roof until he marry, which is deferred until he can meet with a heiress who will accept him; the name of the wife is then added to that of the husband. The heralds would

be puzzled sometimes to make out the genealogical table for some of these families. When a family consists of daughters only, the eldest of them is the heiress, and must marry a younger son, who likewise joins his wife's name to that of his own. Thus, the principal inhabitants contrive never to ally themselves with humbler classes, who are entirely dependent upon their superiors, who, however, treat them with great kindness. Until a man is married, he is not capable of fulfilling any public duty. Law-suits for estates or possessions, are unheard of in this community, which does not exceed 6000 persons. They pay no regular taxes, no duties, but are free to export and import such goods as please them. The government is composed of a council-general of twenty-four members, named for life, four for each community. The council elects two syndics, who convocate the assemblies, and transact public affairs.

The *Andorrans* are in general robust and well-made, and many of the maladies of Europe are unknown to these independent republicans. The women are excluded from all meetings where public affairs are discussed, and they cannot go to the mass which is celebrated on the arrival of the *Viguier* and the bishop. Every man is a soldier, if necessary; and the chief of every family is obliged to have a gun and a certain quantity of powder and shot in his house. Their manufactures consist of the coarse woollen cloth they wear, and some other articles of ordinary use; they export iron into Spain. The situation of Val d'Andorre is elevated, and surrounded on all sides by lofty peaked mountains. It extends twelve leagues from north to south, and ten from east to west: it is bounded on the north by the department of *l'Arriège*, of which it may be said to form a part; on the west, by the valley of *Puillars*, on the east by the *Pays de Carrol*, and on the north by *Urgel*. One alone of its passes is traversable all the year, that towards *Urgel*; the others are quite closed by the snows in the winter: its two valleys are watered by the *Emballiere* and the *Ordino*, which unite in the form of a Y. The soil of *l'Andorre* is mountainous and probably, and but little productive; it contains excellent pasture lands in some parts, besides extensive forests of pines and firs. It is politically divided into six *communautés*: *Andorre*, town and capital, *Canillo*, *Enderness*, *la Massane*, *Ordino*, and *St. Julian*, and thirty-four villages and hamlets.

SECTION XVIII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF ROUSSILLON,

CONTAINING

THE DÉPARTEMENT OF PYRÉNÉES ORIENTALES.

THIS is a maritime and frontier department (S.), composed of the union of *Roussillon*, *La Cerdagne*, and of *Rasès*, (a small part of Languedoc.)

SOIL.—The soil is in general composed of gravel and stone, covered by a small bed of vegetating earth, consisting of the decomposed remains of a calcareous and clayey substance, which the waters from the mountains have loosened and deposited beneath the heights; but when this substance, as is most generally the case, consists of broken masses of granite, in which quartz and mica predominate, the soil is dry and light, and unprofitable: those parts of the department which are exposed to inundations, are the most fertile.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of this department, are the finest of the Pyrenean chain which borders France. That considered the most picturesque is called *Canigou*, which is placed at the entrance of the *Pyrénées*: it is 9724 feet above the level of the sea: its summit is covered with snow seven months of the year, and there are many caverns and crevices on the northern side of the mountain, in which the snows are perpetual. The less elevated summits of this chain of mountains, are covered with pines and firs of every description; beneath, there are forests of chesnut trees, oak, ash, and cork; others present, on their highest elevations, a velvet and ever-green turf, enamelled with flowers, and watered by meandering rills, which, stealing unheard along, trickle down their sides in silvery streams.

COLLS and PERTHUS.—It is thus the passages over the *pyrénées*, which lead to Spain, are called. They are fifteen in number. The principal of these are named *Banyuls*, *Perthus*, and *Saint Louis*. The *Coll de Perthus*, traversed by the royal road from France and Spain, is the point of separation between the two kingdoms: it is defended by the fortress of *Bellegarde*.

On the *Perthus*, it is recorded, Pompey caused a trophy to be erected, on which his statue was placed; and after him, Cæsar erected an altar of stone near to it: both these monuments have long since perished, but two grey marble stones are now placed on their site.

COASTS AND HARBOURS OR PORTS.—The coast is flat and sandy, and one port, that of *Port Vendres*, is found along the shore.

RIVERS.—The *Tech*, *Basse*, and the *Agly*, are the principal rivers of this department: these rivers, the beds of which may be passed on foot in dry seasons, become impetuous torrents, when swelled by the waters from the mountains in rainy weather. The bridge over the *Basse* at *Perpignan*, and that over the *Tech* at *Céret*, are fine specimens of bridge architecture: they consist of one arch.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Hyacinth Rigaud*, a celebrated painter, *Arago*, *Lalande*, *Dom Brial*, of the congregation of *Saint Maur*, *Tostu*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Perpignan*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Perpignan* there is a Society of Agriculture and Commerce. It contains likewise a museum, a botanic garden, a school for drawing, architecture, &c. &c.

This department is divided into three arrondissements, viz. *Perpignan*, *Céret*, and *Prudes*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Montpellier*. It is comprised in the tenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

PERPIGNAN is an ancient and well fortified town. Its inhabitants have, for bygone ages, been celebrated for their bravery. Upon the entire destruction of *Ruscino* by the Normans, *Perpignan* began to acquire some consequence; but long before even this period, it had been successively occupied by the Gauls, the Romans, the Vandals, the Suevi, the Alans, the Visigoths, the Saracens, and the Franks, who were finally supplanted by the Normans. But *Perpignan*, since those periods of war, anarchy, and rapine, has participated likewise in the fate of all the towns in the south of France: it has been the seat of repeated domestic warfare. It finally passed into the hands

of the kings of Arragon, with whom it remained, until Louis XIII., seizing the whole of Roussillon, united it to the crown of France.

The territory of *Perpignan* produces fruits, silk, the wines called *Rivesaltes*, *Malvoisie*, and *Grenache*, and fine wool. It contains manufactories of iron, linen, lace, and woollen stuffs.

The name of *Perpignan* is derived, according to some authors, from *Lucius Perennius* proconsul in Spain; according to others, from *Perping*, a Gothic prince. It was formerly famous for its bull fights; but these have been long abolished.

There is at Perpignan a *Bergerie Royale*, consisting of 540 merino sheep. In 1809, 150 Thibet goats were brought to this bergerie; but whether they have been removed to another establishment, or are left there, the author cannot ascertain.

Long. $0^{\circ} 33' 35''$; lat. $42^{\circ} 41' 59''$. Two hundred and twenty-one leagues south from Paris.

ELME, now an insignificant town, holds however a distinguished place in the annals of history. Its ancient name was *Illebérís*; it was, according to Ptolemy and Strabo, very superior to *Ruscino*, already mentioned, and which gave its name to the province of *Roussillon*, now known as the department of the Eastern Pyrénées. Under the walls of *Illebérís*, Hannibal encamped with an army of 59,000 men, on his way to Italy. In the time of Valentinian, it was besieged by the Visigoths; it was afterwards destroyed and ruined by Constantine; but he subsequently rebuilt and fortified it, giving it the name of *Hélène*, after his mother. After his death, the Emperor Constant, compelled to flee from the persecutions of the usurper Magnentius, took refuge in this city; but he was arrested by a detachment of light horse, and massacred in the temple which his father had erected. The body of Constant was buried by the Christians, and his tomb was in existence so late as the year 1750. Elme has been repeatedly taken and pillaged; and although it has been as frequently rebuilt, yet it has gradually sunk into its present state of insignificance.

PRADES.—The environs of this town are very beautiful. French is but little spoken here, and, in fact, throughout the ancient Gallia Narbonensis, the Catalan is the language of this part of France; and, strange to say, the first elements of educa-

tion among this hardy people, are given by Spanish priest-strangers to the French language.

CÈRET.—A beautiful octagonal fountain, from which flow eight liquid arches of water into a large basin, and a magnificent bridge of one arch, built in the year 1336, are both worthy of notice in this little town.

PORT VENDRES.—The ancient *Portus Veneris*, indicates the spot where a temple to Venus formerly stood. Louis XVI. caused the port to be deepened and enlarged, and made capable of receiving frigates. An obelisk of grey marble had been erected by its inhabitants to the memory of Louis XVI., who had conferred this benefit on his people: it was thirty-three metres above the sea, and was surmounted with *Fleurs-de-lys*. The base represented *Slavery abolished*,—the *Navy prosperous*,—*America independent*,—and *Commerce protected*. But in 1793, the insatiable revolutionists converted all these bronze ornaments into money.

MONT LOUIS.—The territory in the neighbourhood of this town is intersected in every direction by ponds and canals, and to this it is indebted for its prosperity. Corn, of every description, lemon trees, orange trees, mulberry trees, olives, and melons are abundant. The hedges of the gardens are formed of pomegranates; and while the eye is thus delighted, and the taste gratified, the sense of smell is regulated by the sweetest perfumes, which the innumerable aromatic plants exhale. The oak flourishes well in this part of France, and its sturdy branches are enlivened and beautified by the tender vine, whose luxurious tendrils and luscious fruits gracefully twine round the venerable monarch of the forest, forming an arched roof, through which play the bright beams of a southern sun, converted into a moving scene of splendour by the light breezes of the south.

This part of France produces a great variety of wines; among these, the most highly esteemed, are the *Muscat of Rivesaltes*,—the *Grenache of Collioure* and of *Rodes*,—the wines of *Bangals*, *Corrençola*,—the light wines of *Latour*,—of *Terrat*, &c. &c.

MONT LOUIS was built by Louis XIV. in 1681, and it was fortified by Vauban.

The inhabitants of Roussillon are passionately fond of dancing; they have some dances peculiar to themselves. The men generally commence the country dance by a *contre-pas*, the air of

which is said to be of Greek origin; the women then mingle in the dance, when they jointly perform several figures, passing one among the other, and occasionally turning each other round. At a particular change in the air, the male dancer must dexterously raise his partner and place her on his hand in a sitting posture. Accidents sometimes happen upon these occasions, and the lady falls to the ground amidst the jokes and laughter of her companions. One of these dances, called *lo salt*, is performed by four men and four women. At the given signal, the cavaliers simultaneously raise the four ladies, forming a pyramid, the caps of the ladies making the apex. The music which accompanies these dances, consists of a *lo flaviol*, a sort of flageolet, a drum, two hautboys, prima and tenor, and the *cornmeusc*, called in the country *lo cornela*: this instrument, by its description, must somewhat resemble the bagpipes. The dance called *Segadilles* is performed with the greatest rapidity: at the end of every couplet, for the airs are short and numerous, the female dancers are raised, and seated on the hands of their partners.

They also are fond of religious ceremonies, which they celebrate with great pomp. On the *fête* of Jeudi-Saint and *la fête Dieu*, the walls of the houses are covered with tapestry of the richest colours; the pavement is strewn with flowers, and the number of wax lights displayed on these occasions is almost incredible. The sanctuary is transformed into a theatre, upon which different scenes from the New Testament are enacted, while the churches blazing with light, display the most costly furniture and ornaments.

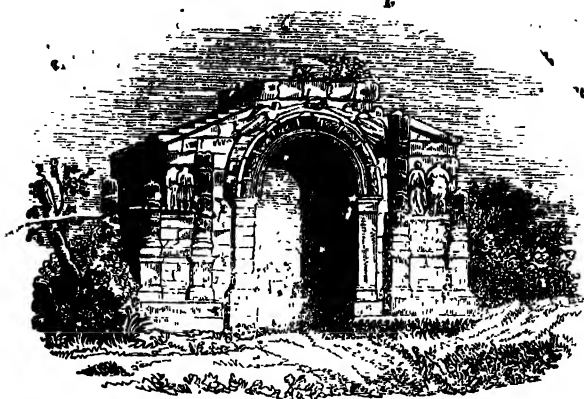
SECTION XIX.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF PROVENCE,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF BOUCHES DU RHONE, BASSE-ALPES, AND VAR.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF BOUCHES DU RHONE.

THIS is a maritime department, (S.E.) It is formed of a part of Provence, the territory of Avignon, and the Comtat Venaissin.

*Arc de St. Remy.*

SOIL.—Mountains, rocks, and valleys, ponds and marshes, compose this department. The soil is, generally speaking, barren, burnt up by a scorching sun. The plain of *La Crau*, situated between the city of *Arles* and the pond of *Berre*, produces the olive, vine, and mulberry-trees. The earth, scarcely more than a foot and a half in thickness, rests upon a rock of pudding-stone, composed of pebble so agglomerated that it is with difficulty broken by the pick-axe, and gunpowder is frequently employed for the purpose. In the winter time numerous sheep feed upon this pasture; in the summer they are conveyed to the neighbouring departments.

MOUNTAINS.—In the east and south-east this department is covered with mountains, the principal of which is the *Sainte Venture*, in the commune of *Vauvenargues*; it is about 1126 feet above the level of the sea. In the north there is a chain called *Alpines*, which are bare and rugged to their summits; they were formerly covered with forests, and during the reign of Charles IX. in 1564, it was necessary to cut down trees which obstructed the passage from *Air* to *Marseilles*.

ISLANDS.—There are many islands at the mouth of the *Rhône*; that of *La Camargue* is the only one deserving of notice, and will be mentioned hereafter.

PONDS AND MARSHES.—There are many ponds, which generally communicate with the sea: the two principal are those of

Valcarès and *Berre*. The marshes are divided into salt and fresh water marshes; the canals which have been made in this part of the country have greatly contributed to drain them.

RIVERS.—The *Rhone* is the most impetuous river in Europe; it deposits quantities of sand, and frequently changes its bed. The mass of sand that it carries towards the sea is so considerable at its mouth, that it is sufficient, in the course of one day, to prevent a navigation which was on the preceding evening free and open. There are many other streams, such as the *Durance*, the *Veaure*, the *Arce*, &c.

CANALS.—The canal of *Arles* to *Bouc*, that of *Craponne*, which communicates with the *Rhone*, the *Durance*, and the sea, are the principal; the others are principally employed for the purpose of navigation.

MINES.—The precious and other metals are scarce in this part of France; but pit-coal abounds. There are also quarries of marble, of various colours, slate, &c.; and in many parts there are calcareous stalactites, capable of being worked like alabaster.

SALT MARSHES.—Those of *Berre* are much celebrated for the quantity, beauty, and fineness of the salt.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—This department possesses, at *Marseilles*, the following societies:—Royal Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts; Statistics, Medicine, Pharmacy, Amateurs of Music, a Council of Agriculture, Cabinet of Natural History, &c. &c. At *Aix*, an Academy of Sciences, Arts, and *Belles Lettres*; Statistics, Cabinet of Natural History, a Museum of Pictures and Antiquities, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Barthelmy*, author of the *Anacharsis Français*; *Lamonon*, naturalist, murdered by the savages in the voyage of *La Pégousse*; *Mussillon*; *Mirabeau*, the translator of Tasso; *les Demoiselles Cérty*, one of whom is Queen of Sweden and Norway; *d'Entrecasteaux*; *Forbin*; *Jaubert*, who introduced the Cashmere goats into France; *Thiers*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, depending upon the Bishop of *Aix*. There are also at *Marseilles*, a church after the Greek ritual, a Protestant consistorial church, and a Jewish synagogue.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. *Marseilles*, *Aix*, *Arles*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Aix*. It is comprised in the eighth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AIX.—The capital of this department is seated in a large fruitful plain, near the river *Arc*. The olives of this country are very fine and abundant, unless they should be attacked by a severe frost, which sometimes is the case, and destroys the hopes of future years. Aix has experienced many changes and reverses of fortune; and could the spirits of those who formerly held sovereign sway over the minds as well as bodies of the inhabitants, appear in a corporeal form, what a medley of priests, priestesses, decemvirs, ediles, questors, &c. &c. would present themselves! Of these, little remains but the name of their different offices and functions. When Aix became the capital of the counts of Provence, then it became likewise the seat of the fine arts, and of those courtesies of human life which were unknown to the conquerors of the world, or their still more rude predecessors the Gauls. Alphonso II. king of Arragon, and his successor, Raymond Berenger XIV., loved poetry, and encouraged the troubadours. Beatrice of Savoy, wife of the latter, promoted every elegant amusement, and their court became the focus for the display of chivalric valour, and of the beauty, grace, and felicity of the fair sex.

Alors la tranquille innocence,
 Était compagne des plaisirs.

During many centuries this happy and prosperous state continued, and the records of the counts of Provence abound in tales of interest. René, said to have been the best of kings and of men, was always mentioned with the greatest respect by the Provençals before the revolution, an honour he must no longer expect; but as he was remarkable for his patience when alive, his ashes are not likely to be disturbed by this neglect. He was a great patron of the fine arts, and was himself an artist of some reputation. When he received the news of his expulsion from the throne of Naples, he was painting a partridge; he listened to this intelligence with indifference, and finished his picture.*

When René and his wife Jane were not occupied with relieving the wants of their people, or the cultivation of the fine

* It was this king René who brought the partridge from Chios into France.

arts, they would put on the habits of peasants, repair to the fields, and attend to their flocks. At other times this good king would mingle with his subjects, and having chosen the side of one of the squares in the city which was sheltered from the mistral or north-west wind, he would there bask in the sun and warm himself. This circumstance has given rise to the following saying, applied to persons basking in the sunshine—*Ils se chauffent à la cheminée du Roi René.*

Aix is well built, and contains many fine buildings; among these the town hall and the cathedral, which is a gothic structure, are the most conspicuous: in the latter are many ancient tombs. Several of the churches, as those of the *Preachers*, the *Blue Penitents*, and of the *Fathers of the Oratory*, are also very fine. In that of the Blue Penitents there are many exquisite paintings; and a magnificent silver statue of the Virgin, almost as large as life,* adorned the church of the Preachers. Many beautiful fountains and baths are likewise dispersed about the city, and the inhabitants possess a delightful promenade in the *Corse* or *Ortibello*, a public walk which is three hundred yards long, and is adorned on each side by a triple row of elms, beyond which is a row of stately well-built houses. On a summer evening this walk presents an animated scene; the beauty of the surrounding country, the delicious climate, and the fragrance of the air, contribute not a little to enhance the pleasures and contribute to the health of the inhabitants of Aix, who are celebrated for their politeness and good breeding. Aix is a place of no trade, and the city may therefore be considered dull by those who love the busy stirring influence of commerce. The waters of Aix, though known to the Romans, appear to have sunk into oblivion for many ages, for they have only been mentioned of late years as being highly salutary in their effects.

Long. 3° 30'; lat. 48° 36' 48". One hundred and eighty-five leagues south-west from Paris.

TERRASCON.—The origin of this name is from a Greek word, meaning *frightening*; and from this etymology may be derived, perhaps, the fabulous history of the famous dragon, which ravaged the banks of the Rhone, and which was killed by Saint Martha. Her effigy, in wood, is preserved with care in the

* There was such a statue, but it was most probably converted into money, during the late revolutions in France.

church that bears her name, where her tomb, in black marble, may be likewise seen. Indeed, tradition asserts that, at the extremity of the island *La Camargue*, at the port of *Les Saintes Marthes*, in the year 46, Martha, her sister, and her brother Lazarus, Mary Magdalen, Jacob and Salomé, Joseph of Arimathea, Simon the leper, and five other saints, landed, and spread themselves over France.

The island of *La Camargue* is situated between the two principal branches of the Rhone; it is about seven leagues long; it is composed of marshy lands and little firm islands, which, at two feet deep, are clayey and saturated with salt. Numerous herds of cattle and many horses feed upon this rich soil.

ARLES, anciently *Arelate*, is situated on the eastern banks of the Rhone, over which there is a bridge of boats. It was founded and built by Julius Cæsar, and was greatly embellished by his successors. It was governed by consuls: it had subsequently its kings! Such was Arles. It is now an ill-built town, with narrow ill-paved streets, possessing only some ruinous remains of its former splendour. But where are those sumptuous edifices, those magnificent buildings, the proud towers and obelisks, which raised their heads to the skies, and seemed to bid defiance to the scythe of Time and the ravages of man? They have fallen, they have disappeared,

And like the baseless fabric of a vision,
Left not a wreck behind.

Yet the hills and the same mountains remain, and present to the lover of nature a picture calculated to excite his admiration and his gratitude, that there is a benevolent Creator, whose works shall last till time shall be no more,—till man, that was, that is, and that shall be, shall need no sublunary dwelling, made with hands, but one eternal in the heavens.

The walks of Arles and the Hotel de Ville, for which the celebrated Mansard furnished the designs, are deserving notice, and they are the only attraction to be found in Arles. The Hotel de Ville contains a plaster copy of the marble statue that was found in the neighbourhood, and which is now in the Louvre at Paris. Antiquarians were much puzzled to find out whether it were a Diana or a Venus, but the important question was at last peremptorily decided by the savants of the capital, who declared it to be a Venus, notwithstanding the following jeu

Esprit which had been addressed to a man of Arles, whose name was Calisthenes, and who had pertinaciously asserted that it was a Venus:—

Silence, Calisthenes, et ne dispute plus;
 Tes sentimens sont trop profanes;
 Dans Arles c'est à tort que tu cherches Venus:
 On n'y trouve que des Dianes.

The statue, when found, had lost both arms: the celebrated sculptor, Girardon, was requested to repair the loss.

There is a curious clock in this town, the hours of which are struck by an automaton. He makes his appearance on the top of the tower just as the hour is complete, followed by his wife, who makes him a low courtesy, then takes a turn round him, and they both disappear after the hour is struck.

Territory of Arles produces wheat, oil, and fruits of all kinds. Long. $2^{\circ} 17' 24''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 40' 28''$. One hundred and eighty leagues south-east from Paris. To the east of Arles extends the vast stony plain of Crau, it is about forty or fifty leagues square, and is covered with stones and pebbles of various sizes, between which grow a luxuriant grass, and aromatic herbs, which feed 40 or 50,000 sheep. There are two legends respecting these stones; the first is in verse.

Le vaste et pierreux campagne
 Converte encor de ces cailloux
 Qu'un prince revenant d'Espagne
 Y fit pleuvoir dans son courroux.

The other is more classical, for Hercules, having exhausted all his arrows against the Ligurians, he, by the assistance of Jupiter, procured a shower of stones, which destroyed his enemies.

This part of France is infested by a keen wind, called the *Mistral*, blowing from the north-west over this plain, where it howls and rages furiously. But troublesome and disagreeable as is this wind, there is one which the inhabitants dislike still more, that comes from the opposite quarter, and produces such an intolerable languor upon every thing possessing animal life, that the beasts and even the birds are affected by it.

MARSEILLES is a strong sea-port and one of the richest and most populous towns in France. It was founded about 600 years before the time of Julius Cæsar, by a body of Phocians,

who, under the command of *Massalia* (whence is derived its name), quitted their native land, and settled in this fertile country. They brought with them their love of the sciences, arts, and commerce. The Greeks called this city Triglossos, and the Romans called it Trilinguis, because the languages of the Greeks, the Romans, and of the Gauls, were spoken with equal accuracy within its walls. At a time when the Romans were unacquainted with navigation and astronomy, when the rest of the navigating world confined their voyages to the sinuosities of the coast, two of the inhabitants of Marscilles, *Eutimené* and *Pythias*, ventured into the open sea in search of new countries. The former proceeded as far as Senegal; and the second, after having visited the coasts of Spain and Portugal, and the western shores of their native land, entered the channel, and even proceeded as far as the Shetland Islands. These illustrious personages returned to their native land in triumph, and further distinguished themselves by many astronomical discoveries: they determined the obliquity of the ecliptic, the extent and difference of climates, the revolutions of the celestial bodies, &c. &c.

Marscilles is divided into the old and new town, which are separated by a street, bordered with trees on either side. The former is one of the worst built in Europe; the latter is, on the contrary, regular, elegant, and convenient. In 1660 Louis XIV. built the citadel and fort St. John. It possesses an excellent harbour, although it will not admit ships of the line; but the entrance being sheltered on each side by lofty mountains, presents a safe asylum to vessels of every description during the most violent storms. The port itself exhibits a most delightful and animated appearance, for it is the resort of strangers from every nation—Turks, Greeks, Moors, as well as Spaniards, Germans, Dutch, English, &c.; all in their respective costumes, with whom it carries on a most extensive and lucrative commerce.

The poet, Lefranc de Perpignan, thus exclaims, when expatiating on the scene presented by the port and harbour, —

D'un coup d'œil on voit, on admire
 Sous ce millier de pavillons,
 Royaume, république, empire,
 Et l'on dit, par l'on respire
 L'air de toutes les nations.

The church of Notre Dame, which is outside of the town, is

very well fortified, and has an imposing appearance. The neighbouring shores are covered with an infinity of country houses, called *bastides*, belonging to the wealthier inhabitants of the town. The churches, the public edifices, the squares, the hospitals, the two academies, the observatory, the theatre, the lazaretto, all declare Marseilles to be the seat of commerce, the arts, and of civilization, and a city of great importance.

The tunny fishery is carried on in this town, in an amusing as well as singular manner. An immense net is drawn in a semicircle, in which the fish are caught; this is by degrees contracted into a narrow compass; a number of boats, gaily ornamented, belonging to amateur fishermen, then advance, and the owners amuse themselves with singling out certain fish, which they attack, amid shouts of laughter and screams of terror; for ladies often join this sport, and the boat is sometimes in a perilous situation from the struggles of the fish, and the eagerness of the fisher.

The territory belonging to this city, though mountainous, and barren in general, produces capers, almonds, figs, and grapes. Its commerce consists principally in drugs, medicinal plants, wines from Cyprus, Calabria, and Spain; corn from Barbary, flour, dried fruits, oranges, lemons, citrons, soap of every kind, silk and cotton goods, coral, &c. Gold, silver, and silk brocades are woven in the House of Industry.

In the year 1720, a vessel from Seyd brought the plague to Marseilles, which had, indeed, been visited by this scourge twenty times before this period, but never so fatally. In the course of the year, 60,000 inhabitants fell victims to this desolating scourge. Those who had escaped the contagion, fled from the city, and erected tents as their dwelling-houses. *Balgunce*, Bishop of Marseilles, and the magistrate (*Viguiér*) *Fortia de Piles*, several monks, and two physicians, (the latter, the only persons of this profession who had escaped the contagion,) were indefatigable in their efforts to render assistance to their suffering fellow-creatures. The church-yards were filled, and the dead, dragged by the dying, choked up the streets, so that when the benevolent bishop quitted his house in the morning, his passage was impeded by the bodies of those who the preceding day had implored his blessing, and received his benediction and assistance. Pope Clement XI. sent a thousand quarters of wheat to the

relief of the suffering city, and a Tunisian corsair, who met this salutary succour, allowed it to pass unmolested, exclaiming—
 “Go, Christian, accomplish your errand—I am no longer your enemy.—God himself would punish me should I molest you.”

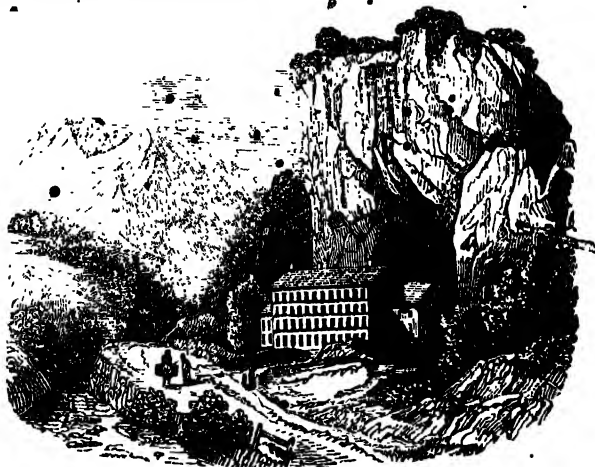
Physicians arriving at length from Paris, produced some alleviation and mitigation of the horrors which had desolated the city; and when the deaths were reduced to the comparatively very small number of seventeen a-day, Balguncé caused an altar to be erected in the open air, whither he repaired barefooted, with his hair rope round his neck, and there, mingling his tears with those of his pallid and woe-worn companions, he offered *his life to God*, to save those of his companions. How delightful, how cheering is it to record *such facts*: let us hope the days will return, when the clergy of France shall be respected and cherished; when the piety of her people shall recal the times when her priesthood was honoured; and the dark days of her infidelity shall be recorded only as a contrast to her zeal in the cause of piety, peace, and virtue. The day already dawns—her banished priesthood, the victims of their fidelity to their faith, are already, in many of the provinces, talked of as men possessing, doubtless, *some* virtue, since they preferred poverty and shame, and worse than these, banishment from their native land, because they would not forsake the God of their fathers. Upon their peculiar tenets, we have no observation to make. We can only judge of their actions—it is for God alone to divine into the secrets of the heart.

Amidst the scenes of desolation which this fatal plague had produced, four men, apparently endowed with a supernatural power, stalked boldly and fearlessly among the dying and the dead: they were *galley slaves*, to whom the public calamity had given freedom. As the danger decreased, they were noticed, recognised, and arrested; but the judges promised them their liberty, if they would discover the secret of their preservation. These thieves confessed that they had made use of a particular vinegar, of which they gave the receipt, and which still goes by the name of “*The Vinegar of the four Thieves*.”*

Vinaigre des quatre Voleurs.—Take rue, wormwood, sage, lavender, mint, and rosemary, a handful of each; put these all together with the best vinegar or alegar, into a stone pan; cover it over with a paste, and set it within the warmth of the fire for eight days, to infuse. Strain it,

Among the remains of antiquity the *Arche de St. Remy* is the most perfect.

Long. $8^{\circ} 2' 8''$; lat. $43^{\circ} 17' 45''$. One hundred and ninety-eight leagues south-east from Paris.



Bains de Digne.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF BASSES ALPES.

This is a frontier department (S.E.), formed of *Haute Provence*.

SOIL.—This department displays the greatest variety of soil and character that can be imagined. In some parts it consists of smiling vales, watered by limpid streams; in others, of barren rocks, down whose craggy sides rolls the foaming cataract. Here may be seen rich cultivated orchards and gardens, enamelled with flowers; there, the sombre impenetrable forests above these rise mountains, covered with perpetual snows, in the bosom and sides of which, caves and grottoes, festooned with stalactites, attract the curious traveller; while the naturalist may wander amid Alpine plants of great beauty found on their sides, or by

and cork it close, after putting to every quart bottle three quarters of an ounce of camphor. Rub the temples and loins with this mixture, wash the mouth, and snuff some up the nostrils every morning, before going out; carry a piece of sponge that has been dipped in it, and smell it often. This method has been tried with success in all kinds of infectious distempers, such as the small-pox and the plague in particular.

penetrating beneath their surface, he may discover fossil shells, plants, fish, ammonites, &c.

LAKES.—The département contains many lakes: that of *Allos* is the largest. At the foot of the mountain *de Lauzet*, at the entrance of the *vallée de Barcelonnette*, there is also another about 1200 feet long by 600 broad, which was a century ago five times this extent; but at that period a man undertook to dry it up, provided he might possess the land he should thus convert to dry land. In order to effect this, it was necessary to pierce through a rock which separated the lake from the river. During seven years this man persevered, unaided and left to his own resources, and excavated a canal of 700 feet long. Perfectly ignorant of mathematics, or any scientific principle to guide his labours, he still worked on; but, unfortunately, ignorant how near he was to the accomplishment of his wishes, he drew so near the stream on the opposite side of the rock, that the last blow of his hammer was followed by the rush of waters, and he was drowned at the very moment of success.

RIVERS.—They are very numerous: among these, the *Durance*, the *Var*, *Ubaye*, *Vaire*, *Jaliron*, are the principal. Many of the streams of this country are mere rivulets, and some even are dry in the winter season; but when the sun melts the snow, they are roaring, foaming torrents.

MINES.—Gold and silver mines are said to be found in the valley of the *Barcelonnette*: iron, lead, and copper, are abundant enough. It also produces yellow amber, jasper, sulphur, vitriol; and in the beds of the torrents are found three kinds of marble, black, white, and red.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Digne* and *Grecoûlx* there are mineral baths. The arrondissements of *Digne* and *Castellane* possess likewise several salt springs.

REMARKABLE CHARACTERS.—*Jean de Matha*, founder of the order for the Redemption of Captives. The two brothers *Blacas*, who took Corfu from the Greeks; the troubadour *Guillaume de Porcellet*, who, to save the life of *William Cœur de Lion*, whose colours he defended, exclaimed—"I am the King!" *Pierre Gasselet*; the philosopher; *Manuel*, *Beranger*, *A. L. G. Bayle*, *Breuscand*, *Desmichels*, *Bezlet de Moustiers*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Digne*.

This department is divided into five arrondissemens, viz. *Digne, Barcelonnette, Castellane, Sisteron, and Pourcelquier.*

DIGNE, the principal town of this department, might be passed by the traveller without exciting one observation, its walks and its warm mineral waters being the only objects worthy of notice. Its inhabitants do not now exceed 3,500; but, in the year 1629, 10,000 industrious citizens followed their numerous avocations within its precincts. At that period, however, an extraordinary plague broke out, in the month of June, which lasted till October, committing the most awful ravages, so that in that short space of time the wretched inhabitants were reduced to the number of 1,500, among whom six only had escaped this very singular malady, the effects of which are thus described by a French writer:—"This malady strangely affected the invalids; some fancied they could fly; others, climb from one object to another like squirrels; some sunk into a profound lethargy, even for so long a time as six days; and one young woman who had been hastily interred in a vineyard, rose three days afterwards, for the grave diggers were content just to cover the bodies. During these four months the town was covered with a thick fog; the heat was suffocating, accompanied by frequent and dreadful storms; and in order to complete the horrors of such a situation, the parliament forbade any of the inhabitants to quit the city, or the small territory belonging to it. Guards placed upon the *Bleime* fired upon those who attempted to escape. The magistrates abandoned their functions; the clocks no longer sounded the hours; the neighbouring springs dried up, so that the mills could not work; and famine began to add its fearful horrors to the miseries which already desolated the city, now become a living sepulchre, for the dead bodies lay in the streets unburied, and the few remaining persons who still paraded the streets appeared more like the spectres of those departed than living beings. Many persons not only prepared but put on the habiliments of death, and quietly awaited the approach of the *king of terrors*. A new edict condemned the pestilential city to the flames; but this inhuman decree was countermanded, after the destruction of one country house, with all its inhabitants. The disease having somewhat abated in the surrounding villages, humanity at length dictated the necessity of making some efforts to save the remaining few, who had escaped the contagion, from

the no less frightful evil of famine. The scene that presented itself was appalling; several little children, whose parents were dead, were found sucking roots; in short, the desolation was so great, that, although two centuries have passed away since this fatal scourge devastated the country, *Digne* has never recovered its effects."

The soil round *Digne* is fertile in almonds and olives.

This department possesses no modern claims upon our attention, but it is interesting from its riches in tombs, medals, inscriptions, and ruins of former grandeur; so that a traveller "may visit this department with his book in his hand, without occupying his thoughts with the beings which surround him." And in interest among these records stands a grotto situated between *Just* and *Entrevaux*, near the village of *Saint Benet*. On first entering this grotto the beauty and splendour of the stalactites have a powerful effect on the spectator; chamber after chamber presents itself, the floors of which are covered with charcoal almost coal: from these chambers several profound cavities extend, which must be entered by crawling on the hands and knees. Admiration is then supplanted by horror and indignation; on every side the remains of human bones appear! they are those of the unfortunate Ligurians, who had united themselves in this grotto to avoid the pursuit of the Romans. The entrance to this cavern is one hundred fathoms above the ground, but the implacable conquerors of the world followed close upon them, and not choosing to enter the retreat, they filled the first chambers with brush-wood, to which they set fire, and thus consumed the enemies they dared not attack in the cavern. The Romans cultivated but little the gentler virtues; but what shall we say to Christians performing this self-same act? but of this hereafter.

The town of *Riez* contains ample proofs of its former grandeur. The principal part of its modern edifices are constructed of the mutilated remains of temples and public edifices of great magnificence; it even possessed a pantheon, and the twelve statues of the principal gods were transported to *Sorpe*, where there have been lately found a Pegasus in jasper, and an Apollo in coral. The *taurobols*, in honour of Cybele, were likewise erected at *Riez*, and the altar is still preserved, upon which this solemn sacrifice was offered in the following manner. A large hole was dug in the ground, into which the priest descended

clad in mystic habits, made of silk, his head encircled by a crown ornamented with streamers: the pit was then covered with planks pierced with holes, and upon these planks was placed a white marble altar; in the middle of this altar was a large hole, through which ran the blood of the slaughtered animal. The priest who was beneath spread his robe and bent his head to receive the blood of the victim, and, in this frightful garb, he showed himself to the people, who prostrated themselves before him as to a divinity!

The *vallée de Barcelonnette* is surrounded by lofty mountains, the summits of which are never entirely free from snow. The two mountains called the *Jong de l'aigle* and the *Croix de Colbas*, like huge giants, seem to guard the entrance to this celebrated valley, and through the narrow gorge between them washes the *Ubaye*. The roads wind in a zigzag direction up these mountains, and the prospect, as ascending from peak to peak the traveller prosecutes his journey, becomes every instant more and more imposing and awful. Upon a huge mountain at the foot of one of the loftier peaks, stands the little village of *Meolons*, like the nest of an eagle in a rock. A small amphitheatre here presents itself, in which several small hamlets and châteaux enliven the scene, but the prospect soon changes: the valley beyond resembles a barren desert, of a league in length, at the extremity of which appears *Barcelonnette*. From this point the basin extends out, and displays all the softer features of the plain; orchards, meadows, rich pasture lands, and cultivated fields, interspersed with cottages and farms, enliven the scene. This upper valley is called *Châteaux hauts*; the barren one, *Châteaux bas*. Although the height of the mountains within the valley still increases, yet, for a time, the prospect becomes more and more agreeable. In the midst of these beautiful scenes stand the villages of *Chatelon* and *la Condamine*, from whence issue many itinerating musicians with their organs, who wander far and near in search of a scanty subsistence. Near the summit of one of the mountains stands the village of *Tournay*, on the site of a Roman camp: it was occupied by the French republican soldiers during the revolution, and it is much admired as a military station. The *Ubaye* bathes the feet of the old and now verdant redoubts. Here the valley separates into two defiles, the one watched by the *Ubaye*, and the other by the *Ubayette*; the

road still continues ascending; some villages are still met with, for the mountains are covered with rich pasture lands, upon which numerous herds of cattle browse in the summer season: gradually, however, vegetation ceases; the pine, the fir, the larch disappear, and the valley is terminated by a scene of awful grandeur, rocks and mountains thrown as it were pêle-mêle upon each other, the foaming torrent, the avalanche, scarcely suspended to the rock, which a slight breeze is sufficient to precipitate, the scream of the eagle, the roaring of the bears, and the inaccessible snowy summit of the *Vire*, towering above every peak—these united objects produce a picture which fancy cannot conjure up, nor imagination portray.

In the canton of *Barcelonnette* the village of *Fours* is likewise situated: it is totally isolated from the rest of the arrondissement by the impracticability of the roads and the slow melting of the snows. The inhabitants are remarkable for their simplicity, and there are also some ceremonies attending their baptisms, weddings, and burials, worth recording, both for their singularity and antiquity. At the baptisms, it is the godmother who names the godfather, and these persons must be free from every mental infirmity or bodily defect, for they firmly believe the child would partake of the infirmities of their sponsors. After the baptism the godmother, on returning the child to its mother, presents her with six dozen of eggs, which she is to eat before she quits her bed.

On the day of betrothing, the lovers are shut up together, for one hour after midnight, after which they join their parents and receive their embraces, and the night is terminated by a repast. On the day of the wedding, the father of the bride, or her nearest relation, presents her with a glass of water, throwing into it a piece of gold or silver, as a token that she is to expect nothing more from him. The young girl drinks the water, takes out the money, and sheds a torrent of tears. The parties then repair to the church, and after the nuptial ceremony is performed, the bride hastens to seat herself upon a little rock in the middle of the square, and which is consecrated to this ceremony; there she places her right foot in a little groove made on purpose, and receives the embraces of all the divers members of the two families to which she is allied, each individual placing a ring upon her finger; the last ring being disposed of, the two parties

commence a contest, after which, peace being restored, they repair to the home of the newly-married couple. He who has given away the bride strikes on the door, and says, "We are weary travellers, who want a resting place." The answer from within implies that "they cannot be received, because the new mistress is expected to take possession of the house." Another person then announces the arrival of the new mistress, when the door is opened, and the bride is presented with three small rolls; one of these she gives to those who are outside the house, and two to those who are in-doors; by which disposal she means to declare, that she intends providing for her own family before that of a stranger, though she is willing to assist others when her own are provided for. She then, as a sign of plenty, scatters handfuls of wheat on the heads of the parties assembled, and the feast commences. It is singular that no girl of *Fours* is permitted to have more than three gowns in her wedding *trousseau*, nor more than two hundred francs as a fortune. These regulations somewhat resemble those of Solon. The poverty of this country compels the men to quit their mountains during the summer, accompanied by such of their children as are old enough to accompany them. The women in the mean while stay at home, in company with the old men, and perform all the laborious duties of agriculture. The children generally play upon the organ, carrying with them formerly a marmot, but these alpine animals are now replaced by monkeys, which are exceedingly cheap in the south of France.

After the death of any person, the straw of his bed is carried into the field next but one to his or her former residence: there it remains, untouched, until it decays and imperceptibly vanishes, for it is never made use of as manure. On the anniversary of the day of death, the friends and relations all assemble to eat an *repas funèbre* (funeral repast), of which rice and eggs form the principal dishes.

On the first day of the year every mother of a family repairs to the fountain, to draw a pitcher of water at the dawn of day. She who arrives there first places some of the first fruits of her labour, a slice of bread, a piece of cheese, on the margin of the fountain, which she who succeeds her carries away, leaving likewise an offering for those who may follow.

The houses are only one story high; the roofs are patched

and covered with slates, or pieces of wood steeped in tar. The ground floor is vaulted and warmed by a chafing dish, and this is the apartment in which the family assemble. The poorer sort meet in their stables, that they may be benefited by the warmth from their beasts; and it not unfrequently happens that the better sort of people will board off a portion of their stables, when the cold is very severe, as the best means of obtaining that warmth so genial to the human frame.

At Pentecost the inhabitants celebrate a fête at *Riez*, called *le guet de Saint Maxime*: it is the representation of a combat between the Moors and Christians. The inhabitants assume the costume of hussars well mounted, and the artisans that of foot soldiers: the latter wear green cockades, and carry standards of the same colour. In the middle of the green, and near the Rotunda, a wooden fort is erected, ornamented with green boughs: the Saracens shut themselves up in this, and on the Sunday and Monday it is attacked by the Christians, and from fifteen to twenty quintals of powder are consumed in this mimic fight. On the third day it is taken, sacked, and burnt, when the Saracens are taken prisoners, and conducted to the gates of the city. On the following day every body repairs to the church of *Saint-Maxime*, to return thanks to the patron saint that no one has been killed. In the church the commander of the Christians selects the chief for the ensuing year, who instantly fires his gun in the middle of the church. They have also a game called *les trois sauts*. A prize is given to him or her who shall leap over the greatest space in three bounds. The men leap in a newly-ploughed field, the girls on the smooth turf.

This neighbourhood, indeed, abounds in legends and records. To the south-east of *Fourcalquier*, a wealthy person was planting vines at *Saint Clair*, when the workmen found 15,000 skeletons placed side by side, which are presumed to be the bodies of Roman soldiers who fell in the *Champ Prélien*, in a battle won by the *Salixs*.

Sisteron is the last place to be mentioned in this department. It is a very ancient town, and is seated on the rapid *Durance*. Its cathedral and citadel are both deserving notice. The latter served as a prison to *Casimir V.*, King of Poland, who from a Jesuit became a Cardinal, then King, quitted his kingdom for an abbey, and died a simple burgess at *Nevers*.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF VAR.

VAR is a maritime department (8.) It is constituted of a part of *Provence*, the territory of *Avignon*, and the *comtat du Venaissin*.

SOIL.—This department is covered with mountains, partly granitic and partly calcareous. There are, also, many traces of currents of lava having flowed in various directions, particularly, near *Toulon*, *Rougès*, *Tournes*, *Chartreuse de l'Averne*, and *Fréjus*, of historic memory.

RIVERS.—The *Var* and the *Argens* are the two principal rivers; these are partially navigable. The former rises in *Mont Gamlione*: its descent is rapid, and it frequently commits great devastation in its vicinity. There are many other streams that water this department, but none of sufficient importance to be named.

FORESTS.—These occupy one-seventh of the department: they are principally composed of the hardy race of evergreens; but other forest trees are to be found, such as the oak, the beech, birch, &c.

MARSHES.—These are still numerous enough, both on the borders of the sea and upon inland, to call for the assistance of draining. Those of *Hyères* have been drained, a circumstance greatly contributing to the health of the inhabitants.

ISLANDS.—Two principal groups lie off the shore, those of *Hyères* and *Lérins*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c.—There are at *Toulon* a Society of *Belles Lettres* and the Arts; schools of *Geometry* and *Mechanics*; an *Observatory*, &c. *Draguignan* possesses also a Society of *Agriculture* and *Commerce*, a botanic garden, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Julius Agricola*, father-in-law to *Tacitus*; *Quintus Roscius*, the actor; *Cornelius Gallus*, general and poet, and friend of *Virgil*; *Moreri*, *Massillon*, *Emmanuel Sieyès*, *Raynouard*; many generals and admirals of distinction, and a host of poetic troubadours, too numerous to be mentioned.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Fréjus*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz:—*Draguignan*, *Toulon*, *Grasse*, *Fréjus*. Its civil government.

depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Aix. It is comprised in the eighth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

TOULON, called by the Romans *Telo* or *Tolo*, because it was founded by one of their generals of that name, is situated on the northern shores of the Mediterranean sea. It consists of the old and new town. The latter contains some fine streets, particularly that called *Rue de Monsieur*, which affords an agreeable walk for the inhabitants. Toulon is almost surrounded by mountains, and from these descend several small streams, which supply the fountains with water, and cool and purify the air. The port is likewise divided into the old and the new port, which are united by a canal: the former, the *Port Marchand*, was constructed by Henry IV.; the latter, *Port Neuf* or *Militaire*, is the work of Louis XIV. The arsenal is a fine building, and a walk in its dock-yard can be no less agreeable than gratifying to its inhabitants, at the sight of its immense naval and warlike stores. But Mars is not the only presiding deity of the arsenal: Flora, Bacchus, and Pomona here spread forth their more peaceable treasures, for roses bloom and vines creep amidst pyramids of cannon-balls, rows of cannon, bombs, mortars, &c. &c. The roadstead for ships is well defended by numerous batteries. The beautiful basin in which the vessels are admitted to refit, is three hundred feet long and one hundred feet broad: when the vessel has entered, the basin is closed by means of a pontoon, in the form of a truncated cone, loaded with weights in order to make it sink: the water is then drawn from the basin by pumps, so that the vessel is kept dry until ready to float again. The gate and the armoury of the arsenal, the rope-walk, which is 1752 feet in length, and covered with free-stone, and the *écoles des gardes marins*, are interesting and worthy of observation.

Toulon has manufactories of silk stuffs, cloths, hats, bonnets, soap, and glass. Its territory produces wines, brandy, oils, figs, oranges, raisins, almonds, and capers; yet it is not a commercial town. In the time of the Romans it contained a manufacture of the purple dye, highly valued in former times.

Long. $3^{\circ} 35' 26''$ E. ; lat. $43^{\circ} 7' 24''$. Two hundred and seven leagues south-east from Paris.

BRIGNOLES is a mean town, known in the time of the Romans, who, distinguished as much by their epicurism, as their bravery, named this town *Brinonia*, meaning, in the Celtic language, *good plums*. The plums, in small boxes covered with lace paper, are the product of the country round *Brignoles*, and are as celebrated in these days as they were among the Romans.

SAINT MAXIMIN is about four leagues west of *Brignoles*, and about two leagues further north is the renowned Mount *Pilon*, where *Sainte Magdalene* repaired to do penance. The grotto which she inhabited is 2,800 feet above the level of the sea; the summit of the mountain rises 210 feet higher than the grotto. This place was formerly held in great veneration — a convent was built in the mountain, and an altar was erected in the grotto; every passer by, whether king or shepherd, turned aside to pay his devotions there, and the forest which extended along the sides of the mountain had been declared sacred by the kings of France, and its venerable trees remained untouched until the Revolution of 1793, which, though in its fury it swept away every thing that was hallowed and sacred, dispelled at the same time many a superstitious spell which enslaved the conscience and fettered the energies of the human mind. This department presents many points of view highly picturesque, and the defile of *Ollioules* is perhaps as grand, as terrific, as that of *Thermopylæ*. The mountains on every side are barren, rising in rugged peaks without one single mark of vegetation, and the solitude of the scene is only interrupted by the screams of the eagle and other birds of prey.

SECTION XX.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF COMTAT VENAISSIN,

CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT OF VAUCLUSE.

This department is inland (S.E.), formed of the ancient *Comtat Venaissin*, portions of the territories of *Avignon*, of the principality of *Orange*, and a very small part of *Provence*.

SOIL.—The soil of this department is very different in character, though its qualities are all alike fertile, generally speaking. The land is either calcareous, mixed with clay and sand: veins of gypsum, and a composition called *safre*, consisting of agglomerated and half petrified sand.

MOUNTAINS.—The Alps bound this department on the eastern and southern frontiers. *Mont Venoux* is the most lofty point of the chain, commanding *Carpentras*. Although at the distance of twenty leagues from the sea, it is visible far from land, serving as a pharos to navigators of the Mediterranean. Its summit is a cone placed upon an immense dome: it is accessible, though with some difficulty, to the summit. If the situation of this point be well considered, the reader's imagination may conjure up a scene, which, however splendid in its fantastic as well as splendid forms, — brilliant, vivid, and sometimes sombre in its colouring, — cannot equal the view which presents itself to the silent, breathless, and statue-like stranger, as he gazes upon the mingled scene before him.

FORESTS.—These occupy one-sixth of the territory of *Vaucluse*. The trees which compose them are the *flex* or evergreen oak, the scarlet oak, the oak, beech, pines and firs of every description, though not in great abundance.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Lez*, *Aigues*, *Ouvèze*, *Auzon*, *Nesque*, *Sorgues*, and *Canton*. The *Durance* and the *Rhone* are its boundaries on the south and west. All the streams which rise in this country flow from east to west. In many parts of *Vaucluse* the roads are only accessible by the mules.

MINES.—One iron mine, and some of pit-coal, are worked, but metals do not abound in this department. Jasper, of a superior quality, is found in some parts.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At Avignon there are a *Société des Amis des Arts*, and one of Agriculture, a botanic garden, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Cardinal *Cabassoles*, protector and friend of Petrarch; *Crillon*, the friend of Henry IV.; *Esprit Flechier*, bishop of Nîmes; Cardinal *Maury*; *Arnaud*; *Saurin*, a Protestant minister and a great mathematician; *Sainte Croix*; General *Lagarde*, who strenuously opposed the massacre of the Protestants at Nîmes, in 1815. Many generals in modern times, among these, *Laurent*, who burnt his uniform on the day Napoleon destroyed the Republic.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholics forming part of the diocese of Avignon. The Protestants have at *Lourmarin* a consistorial church, divided into three sections.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz:—*Avignon, Orange, Carpentras, Apt.* Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Nîmes*. It is comprised in the eighth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AVIGNON is advantageously situated on the *Rhone*; it is surrounded by towers and battlements, and has the appearance at a distance of being one of the chief places in France. The origin of this town is unknown; the Celts have, however, the reputation of being its founders. To the *Marseillois* it owes much of its consequence, for they enlarged and beautified it; but the Romans, charmed with the surrounding country, erected several sumptuous edifices both within and without the walls: of these buildings not a trace remains. It was subsequently besieged by Clovis,—taken by the Saracens,—erected into a republic,—it then passed into the Neapolitan family,—a member of which, Jane, Queen of Naples, Countess of Provence, sold it to Pope Clement VI A. D. 1348, who fixed his residence in the south of France. In the course of seventy years, there were eight different popes who resided at Avignon; and there were at that time within its walls, seven palaces, seven churches, seven hospitals, seven colleges, seven nunneries, and seven gates. Time has, however, destroyed many of these mementoes of the whims of the holy fathers. Avignon likewise possessed a miraculous silver bell, which was never known to sound, except on the death of one pope, and the promotion of another! The solution of this miracle is not very difficult;—this bell is no longer in existence. The Hotel of Invalids and the Cathedral are fine buildings. In the church of the Cordeliers, was the tomb of the brave *Crillon* and that of *Laura*, as celebrated for her beauty and virtue, as she was by love, and the verses of Petrarch. Francis I. passing through Avignon, caused her tomb to be opened. It contained a few small bones and a leaden box, in which he found some of Petrarch's verses, with a leaden medal. He commanded that a tomb more worthy of this remarkable personage, should be erected, in which he deposited these relics, and himself made her epitaph.

Avignon is altogether pretty, with the exception of that part called *Quartier de la Juiverie*, which is inhabited by the Jews; and where, before the revolution, these people were locked up every night.

It was in the neighbourhood of Avignon that Scipio's buckler was found, A. D. 1656, by some fishermen. It is circular, and is embellished with a representation of Scipio restoring to a Celtic-herian prince his young and beautiful bride. Few persons visit Avignon, without repairing to the grotto of *Vaucluse*. Passing through the village of *Pernes*, the traveller reaches the small town of *Isle*, where *Petrarch* saw *Laura* for the first time: the aspect of the country then changes; the valley through which the *Sorgue* flows is rough, barren, and pebbly. Along its banks, the traveller winds at the foot of a mountain, upon which stand the ruins of a building called *Chateau de Petrarch*; but it is by no means ascertained that it was inhabited by the poet: on the contrary, it is said, he inhabited a cottage in the valley, and near the fountain of *Vaucluse*. At the end of the village of *Vaucluse*, two obscure and spacious grottoes are to be seen; it is from one of these that the *Sorgue* issues, forming a clear and crystal basin of water, of about 100 feet in diameter. At the time of the equinoxes, however, after abundant rains, this river rushes from the cavern with a foaming impetuosity and a thundering noise, forming a beautiful cascade until it reaches its bed in the valley, which, is at all times so deep as to admit a boat at the distance only of 500 paces from the rock.

Avignon exports wool, silk, honey, wax, gum, saffron, wines, brandy, madder. It is situated in long. $2^{\circ} 28' 10''$ E.; lat. $43^{\circ} 56' 53''$ N. One hundred and sixty-six leagues south-east from Paris.

CARANTRAS, situated on the river *Auson*, at the foot of *Mont Ventoux*, is a very ancient city. Its streets are narrow, but it possesses many fine squares and market-places, several pretty fountains, a superb aqueduct, which supplies them with water, and many beautiful walks within and without the town. There are likewise the remains of a triumphal arch, said to have been erected to the memory of Domitius Aenobarbus, on his defeat of the Alfoleges; but it is no longer an object of grandeur, for the chimney of the adjacent prison is constructed in one of its sides; and the sublime ideas kindled by the words triumphal arch, bell allied with knells, and dungeons, and jailors, the mind

very naturally impels the traveller's feet to leave such melancholy objects, and carry him to a superb building, erected for the alleviation of the sufferings of mankind; called *l'Hospice d'Humanité*. The library of *Carpentras* contains the famous picture of *la Tempête*, by *Vernet*. *Vernet*, in order to understand his subject feelingly, caused himself to be tied to the mast of a vessel, which was every moment expected to be swallowed up by the sea.

Carpentras contains manufactories of soap, Vitriol, spirits of wine, brandy, &c.; there are likewise many tanneries and madder mills in this town, which stands in Long. West $2^{\circ} 45' 58''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 8''$ N.; and which is exactly one hundred and sixty-six leagues south-east from Paris.

ORANGE, anciently *Aurasio*: its original founders are unknown: it is situated in a beautiful plain on the east side of the *Rhone*, and watered by a vast number of rivulets. In the time of the Romans it was a beautiful city, adorned with many superb buildings, some remains of which are still to be seen, particularly those of an amphitheatre, the walls of which are perfect, and a triumphal arch erected to the memory of Marius and Catullus, the conquerors of the Cimbri. Among numerous bas-reliefs on this arch, is one of an old woman with her finger in her ear. This is supposed to be the representation of a sorceress, whom Marius always consulted before he went to battle, ever after she had foretold him who of the gladiators should be successful in the combat, before she had seen them. In 1682, the wall of this town was destroyed by order of Louis XIV. The title of *Prince of Orange* was first introduced into the family of Nassau, by the marriage of *Claude de Chalon*, the Prince of Orange's sister, with the Count of Nassau, in 1530. *Orange* was formerly a principality of France; and the counts of *Provence*, the popes and the kings of *France*, have been the principal performers in the great military and political dramas, which have deluged this fine country with blood. The treaty of Utrecht gave this town and its small principality, (which only extended over twelve miles one way, and nine the other,) to France, though the title is still retained in the house of Nassau. Its manufactures and natural productions are numerous: the former consist of painted cloths, handkerchiefs, serges, silk, and madder: the principal exports are wool, saffron, oil, brandy, spirits of wine, oil seeds, madder roots, almonds, dried and fresh

truffles, essence of thyme, lavender, spike, wax, gum, &c. Orange is situated in Long. $2^{\circ} 28' 8''$ E. lat. $44^{\circ} 8' 10''$ N.; and it is one hundred and sixty-four leagues south-west from Paris.

Near *Courtheron*, in this department, there is a pond of clear, limpid water, but saline, since it deposits a salt like that of the sea, without any cause being given for this phenomenon.

The character of the Provençals resembles very much that of the Languedocians; they are, however, more *entêtés*, more fiery than their neighbours; they hastily adopt any opinion or idea which pleases their imagination, and defend it with equal obstinacy, and frequently reject it with equal precipitation, without consulting reason in either case. The well-educated part of the community cultivate the fine arts and the sciences, and the social feelings with avidity. The women of this country are either very handsome or very pretty—their countenances express instantly every feeling of their hearts, and it is impossible to mistake their character. The scold cannot affect docility—still less can the *gentle* put on the expression of the scold. The costume of the ladies is pretty, and one of their countrymen thus describes the appearance of that class denominated beautiful:

“Under a green handkerchief thrown tastefully over the head, appear two dark and well-arched eyebrows; an animated complexion and a glowing cheek give lustre to a pair of bright black eyes; a light corset protects an alabaster neck from the rays of the sun, displaying at the same time the lightness and elegance of the figure. A gown called *drolet* is thrown over this, extending no farther than the calf of the leg, which is generally well formed, and covered with a black silk stocking; to this must be added a large silver buckle, which almost conceals a delicate foot.”

SECTION XXI.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF DAUPHINÉ,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF ISÈRE, DRÔME, AND HAUTES
ALPES.

I.—THE DEPARTMENT OF ISÈRE.

THIS is an inland department (S. E.) composed of a part of *Dauphiné*.

SOIL.—The southern parts of this department are covered with lofty mountains, which are divided from the northern and more fertile parts by the *Isère*.

RIVERS.—The *Isère* and the *Drac*.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Alps*.

FORESTS.—Of the same description as those of the *Hautes Alpes*.

MINES.—Gold, silver, lead, iron, copper, and coal are found in different proportions in the *Isère*, as well as mineral waters.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Louise de Serment, Mademoiselle de Tencin, Gentil Bernard, Vaucosson, Bayard, the preux chevalier, and the infamous Adrets Châtrier, Vaucosson Condillac, &c.*

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. This department forms the diocese of a bishop, dependent upon the archbishop of *Lyon*.

The protestants have a consistorial church at *Mens*, and nine temples or houses of prayer; also seventeen protestant schools.

CHIEF TOWNS.

This department is divided into four arrondissements, viz: *Grenoble, Vienne sur le Rhone, Saint Marcellin, and la Tour du Pic*.

GRENOBLE, anciently *Calaro* or *Gratianopolis*, is built at the foot of a mountain watered by the *Isère*. On the summit of this mountain, there was formerly a fort denominated the *Bastille*, which has long since fallen from its commanding situation, and a small house now occupies its site, and retains its name. That part of the town which lies between this *Bastille* and the *Isère* is called *La Perriere*; the name of *Bonne* is given to the other half, and as its name testifies, is the better half, though its cognomen was derived from *François de Bonne, Duc de Lesdiguières*.

who greatly embellished the town with many public edifices. The streets are straight and well paved; but the private houses are neither well built nor ornamental. The Palace of Justice, the Prefecture, and the public garden attached to it, claim, however, the notice of the traveller. Its theatre has been much praised; its interior construction is irregular; that portion appropriated to the spectators is neither a square nor an oblong, but is of this form. It has some fine walks; that which

runs along the banks of the *Graille* two leagues in length, and is indeed surrounded by the most picturesque landscape; in the midst of which is conspicuous the bridge of *Claix*, of one arch, over the *Drac*, the span of which is 140 feet, and the height 120. *Grenoble* is situated almost, it may be said, between four rivers: the *Drac*, the *Isère*, the *Graille*, the *Romanche*. There is an old proverbial prophecy among the people, which implies that a serpent and a dragon will swallow up the city. May not the torrent of the *Drac* and the sinuous windings of the *Isère* explain this prophecy? they indeed threaten at some future period to fulfil it, unless art should essay her strength against the power of dame Nature. The *Isère* has already made advances, and when increased and impelled by the waters of the *Drac*, it has occasionally risen so high as to drown persons in the *places publiques*.

At the village of *Baume*, between the villages of *Amblerieux* and *Sallettes*, and on the road between *Grenoble* and *Lyon*, is the celebrated *Grotte de Notre Dame de la Baume*; it may be seen by descending the *Rhone*, or by taking the road from *Lyon* to *Grenoble*. Its entrance is imposing, being twenty or thirty feet wide, and eighty high, resembling a lofty triumphal arch; and amid the scenes of grandeur and beauty which the entrance presents, stands on the right, *La Chapelle de Notre Dame de la Baume*. Beneath this small rustic chapel, a canal has been formed to facilitate the passage of the subterranean waters, when increased by rains or melting snow. Beyond the chapel is a grotto 120 feet high, and about 60 wide; this is terminated by a gallery not so lofty. Masses of stalactites present themselves on every side, some rising into lofty pyramids, down which gently trickle the limpid waters from the superior rock. Beyond this gallery, is the stream which meets the canal under

the chapel; a small boat is then entered by the curious traveller, in which he is occasionally obliged to lie down, for in many parts, the rock descends within a very short distance of the waters. The stream is terminated by a still, clear lake, which a French gentleman, M. Bourrit, swam across, having furnished himself with corks and aquatic candles; the effect produced upon his feelings and imagination were indescribable. Having lost sight of his companions by an angle of the rock, he entered an immense lake, which he swam round, and discovering at length a narrow stream, he followed it, supposing he should discover the source of the stream and lakes; but all was still as death,—not a ripple on the water,—not a sound in the air,—no gentle dropping disturbed the mirror-like surface on which he moved, except the evanescent, fleeting track that marked his own passage through the waters. Having wandered in these subterraneous caverns for the space of an hour, he returned to his anxious companions, who were on the point of taking their departure when he arrived. Yet when Francis I. visited this grotto, he was deterred from proceeding by the strong current, attended with a noise which seemed to be occasioned by a whirlpool. The remains of this base were to be seen some fifty years ago in the cavern through which lies the passage to the lake. But since the time of Francis, many changes may have taken place in these subterraneous regions, which are most probably under the influence of fire as well as water.

M. Martin has so poetically described the beauties, grandeur, and sublimity of this grotto, that it will form an excellent conclusion to the subject. It must have been written when the current alluded to, was in existence.

Dans le flanc d'un rocher donc le front sourcilieux,
Couvert d'épais buissons, s'élève jusqu'aux cieux,
L'œil étonné découvre une large ouverture
Qu'ont taillée avec art les mains de la nature :
Le lierre, qui serpente en verdoyans rameaux,
Étend de tous côtés ses festons inégaux ;
Une croix, près de là, sur un tertre placée,
De pieux souvenirs entretient la pensée ;
Et dans l'âme jetant une sainte terreur,
La ramène un moment devant son Créateur.
Plus loin, un peuplier que le zéphir balance,
Mesure la hauteur de cette voûte immense,

Et des oiseaux cachés sous son feuillage vert
 Le doux gazouillement charme l'écho désert.
 Plus loin, en avançant dans la grotte profonde,
 D'un rapide torrent on entend mugir l'onde ;
 De rochers en rochers, de détours en détours,
 Il roule, et dans le fleuve il va finir son cours.
 Mais au-dessus des fîcs où sa base est assise,
 Sous la voûte s'élève une modeste église.
 Là, des hameaux voisins, en un jour solennel,
 Le peuple vient en foule adorer l'Eternel.
 Quel spectacle touchant ! quelle cérémonie !
 Des cantiques pieux la rustique harmonie.
 Le bruit de la prière et le bruit du torrent,
 Du ministre sacré le saint recueillement,
 L'encens qui, sur l'autel, s'élevant en nuages,
 Emportait dans les cieux les vœux et les hommages,
 Tout à mon âme émue, où naissait la ferveur,
 Du Dieux de l'univers annonçait la grandeur.

Grenoble has manufactories of gloves, cloths, hats, calicoes.

Long. $3^{\circ}23'34''$ E. ; lat. $45^{\circ}11'42''$. One hundred and thirty-eight leagues S. E. from Paris.

The environs of *Grenoble* present many objects of interest. The old castle of the family of *Lexisguières*, at *Vigelle*, is now converted into a cotton manufactory ; but the *salon*, of the constable is preserved with all its antique decorations, and should be visited by the curious.

The bridge of *Vizille* over the *Romanche*, is by some connoisseurs in bridge architecture, preferred to that of *Claix*. It is situated just at that part of the high road where it commences its winding ascent up the adjoining mountain, that leads to the plain of *Lafrey*. Three lakes, which have the appearance of being but one, extend along the road on the plain, and threaten to overwhelm the valley below.

The burning fountain of *Dauphiné*, near *Saint Barthelemy*, was, even in the days of Saint Augustin, an object not only of curiosity, but of awe and terror. If the ancient legends and records deserve credit, it was formerly much more extensive and powerful in its effects ; for travellers of former times relate, that it was so powerful, that it threw so strong a glare upon the neighbouring villages, that they appeared at a short distance from them, to be

in flames. So late as the seventeenth century, the people repaired from short distances, on parties of pleasure, bringing with them eggs, and cooking *omelettes* by the flames. St. Augustin says, that in his time, if a burning torch were brought within the focus of the flame, it was instantly extinguished; and if, on the contrary, a dead torch were presented, it would instantly burst into a flame. In these our days, an inflammable gas escapes from the surface of the stream, and from the earth in its vicinity; if it be agitated, it will kindle light objects.

The Grottoes of *Sassenage* are to the north of *Grenoble*. These grottoes are the work of nature, but so much art is displayed in their outward construction, that they almost lose for an instant that imposing effect which the wild scenes of nature generally produce. These observations only apply to their external appearance. The entrance, which is called *les portes de Sassenage*, is situated upon the road *d'Engins*; it resembles an old ruined portico with its crumbling and broken towers and parapets. On passing beneath its arches, a row of broken layers of rocks present themselves, which resemble an old dilapidated staircase. Under the great opening on the left, is a cavity from whence issues *le torrent de Germa*, which, after having circulated through the several cavities, collects itself into one mass near the top of the natural stair, from whence it precipitates itself with a tremendous noise. The mountains in the neighbourhood of *Uriage*, near *Domaine*, are much frequented by the herdsmen, who drive thither their beasts, and settle themselves among the rich valleys during the fine season. The dog and his master are ever upon the most equal and familiar footing; the one being indispensable to the safety of the other; they have each of them a goat set apart for his particular food. Their situation is by no means a sinecure, for as the oxen in this solitude are unconfined by hedges or ditches, they roam sometimes far away from the herd, and unless fetched back, they stand a chance of becoming food to another quadruped which inhabits the thick forest of firs in the vicinity, namely, bears. It often happens on these occasions, that the shepherd and his dog find the ox and the bear already in contact; all that then remains to be done is to kindle a torch, to which is tied a quantity of straw, and to thrust this blazing weapon against the nose of the bear, for these animals are so tenacious of their hold, that blows will not make them relin-

it. Among the charms of pastoral life described by the poets, this is one they have omitted.

VOREPPE possesses an old castle, the garden of which is celebrated for its numerous and very beautiful flowers. An immense pyramidal rock, called *l'Éillet*, which commands the entrance, is as so famous for being one of the safest roads leading to the *Grande Chartreuse*. The *Chartreux* monks derive their name from the village of *Chartreuse*, situated not far from their convent. On the other side of the *Sapé* extends the superb and highly cultivated valley of *Griesaudan*, through which the Drac and the Isère wind in such an extraordinary and picturesque manner, that they appear to be multiplied; while the vineyards and fields resemble emerald islands set in liquid crystal. The valley produces maize, hemp, and wheat, and the orchards abound with the mulberry tree. Small villages and country houses, intermingled with plantations, diversify the perspective, which is bounded by the lofty Alps. It is, nevertheless, from this quarter,—this beautiful valley, that Grenoble has to apprehend its ruin. It is in the summer time, when the genial warmth of the weather inspires delight, and gives the prospect of a rich harvest, that the inhabitants of the valley anxiously direct their eyes to the neighbouring mountains, from whose summits rush the melted snows, that appeared before like inaccessible rocks of seven or eight leagues in extent. Then the banks of the Isère, which are composed of vegetable earth, frequently yield to the pressure of the waters, and the soil with its rich productions and dangerous habitations, are undermined and swept away in one common ruin. It is these inundations that in the year 1800, drew the attention, and called forth the serious consideration of the government of France, how to remedy these evils which threaten Grenoble with annihilation; for Grenoble contains upward of 20,000 inhabitants, whose fate depends, as a second cause, upon the Isère and the Drac.

The entrance to this valley, which is near Montmelian in Savoy, is defended by the *Fort Barraux*, constructed by the duke of Savoy, even under the eyes of Lesdiguières. Henry IV. having reproached the latter for his inaction and apparent indifference to a fort so important, Lesdiguières replied, "Your Majesty wants a good fortress to oppose to that of Montmelian. If the duke of Savoy will defray the expenses of such an undertaking, we will do it; when he has well furnished it with cannon and

such like ammunition, I will take it from him." He more than kept his promise; for he not only made himself master of the fortress, but he conquered Savoy, and was honoured and rewarded by his sovereign with a marshal's baton.

The road to the monastery of the Chartreuse, which is but six leagues distant from Grenoble, lies round mount *Saint Enard*, after which, the lofty mountain *Sabé*, covered with "darkly waving pines," the solemn imposing yew, and the hardy Scotch fir, remains to be scaled; but the traveller is amply repaid his fatigue and labour, by the splendid view which presents itself from its summit, where *Grenoble* and all its surrounding wonders and beauties, appear like a *living* panorama, for to form and colour is added *motion*. The being who could from such an elevation behold such a scene and remain unmoved, is not to be envied. The village of *Chartreuse* occupies a valley of considerable extent: the houses are scattered here and there; and from amidst the low roofs, towers the church. The road then winds along the foot of the hills, and the traveller suddenly turning an angle, enters a narrow mountain gorge, from which rise peak above peak, till they seem lost in the clouds. This pass, which is only a few feet wide, is indeed truly tremendous. It winds between stupendous granite rocks, which overhang above, and appear ready every moment to fall with a dreadful crash, and overwhelm the awe-struck traveller. Indeed, the crags above project so far beyond the perpendicular, that they appear literally suspended without support. They cast such an awful gloom on the path, that horses as well as their masters, seem impressed with fear, and ready to start back at the strangeness of the scene, and the sullen echo of every footfall. At the further end of the defile is a romantic mountain torrent, which is crossed on a rude stone bridge; and by a sudden turn of the road, the tremendous alp on which the monastery is placed, presents itself. This is indeed a solitude, where no huntsman winds his horn,—no shepherd tunes his pipe; a spot where nothing meets the eye but tremendous precipices, and lofty glaciers of every fantastic form;—where the deep rolling torrents are heard, not seen, struggling and foaming, and gushing impetuously through their dark recesses. The monastery itself is as striking as the approach to it; it consists of a mass of building which, including the cells of

the monks, occupies an extent of 600 feet in length. Near it flows a crystal stream as cold as ice.

In the winter time this secluded asylum is a dwelling scarcely habitable; for it is to be observed, that although the *Chartreuse* is situated a league above the base of the mountain, yet it is placed in a bottom as respects the summit; even on the brightest day, the sun is only visible (owing to the proximity of the rocks) as from a deep well. On the west, indeed, there is a little space, which being sheltered, is occupied by a grove of dark pine trees; but on every other side, the bare lime-stone rocks are not more than ten yards from the convent. So gloomy is the light admitted into the interior of the building, that it is scarcely possible to read a small print, except by lamp light, even when the sun is in its meridian.

This monastery formerly contained 400 monks; seven-and-twenty solitary beings now constitute the number of its isolated inhabitants. As may naturally be expected, the building is partly going to decay; the little gardens are many of them covered with briars and thorns; and the broken stone crosses, which still mark the spot where repose the ashes of many a pious saint, are covered with hardy Alpine plants.

The monastery contained a very fine library; but it is very probable that this did not escape the ravages of the French revolution of 1793, when emissaries were dispatched to throw down the crosses, and sacrilegiously to deface and destroy this distant edifice, which had been consecrated to holy purposes by holy men. Half a league above the *Chartreuse*, there were two beautiful chapels, the one dedicated to the Holy Virgin, the other to St. Bruno. The latter is said to be the spot originally chosen for the monastery, but the dangers to which it was exposed rendered it wholly impracticable.* The *Père Marsan* thus beautifully describes these scenes, and the effect they produced upon him:—

J'avancé: deux grands monts, sur moi courbés en voûte,
De leur front fourcilleux intimidant ma route,
Tous fiers, tout imposans, semblent du haut des airs
Interdire aux humains l'aspect de ses déserts,

* It was customary with the monks of the Grand Chartreuse to present a register book to every traveller, and request he would insert his name, and write a sentence. J. J. Rousseau on this occasion, signed his name, and wrote these words only, *O altitudo!*

L'aigillon bat leur flanc ; et leurs bases profondes
 Voisines des enfers, se cachent sous les ondes
 Je franchis, tout pensif, ce passage effrayant,
 Et dans l'ombre bientôt je m'enfonce à pas lent.
 Quelle beauté sauvage et quelle horreur pompeuse !
 Que la nature est là grande et majestueuse !
 L'épaisseur des forêts, la profondeur des eaux,
 Les immenses vallons, les antres, les coteaux,
 L'obscurité, le bruit, la terreur, le silence,
 Tout, dans ces vastes lieux, parle à l'homme qui pense.
 Un long amphithéâtre, orné de vieux sapins,
 Y tient lieux de remparts de murs et de jardins ;
 Mille torrens tombant par cascades bruyantes,
 A travers les débris des rochers mugissantes ;
 Les oiseaux à grand vol, les aigles, les milans,
 Joignant leurs cris aigus au sifflement des vents ;
 Les arbres fracassés par l'effort des orages ;
 L'éboulement des rocs et leurs tristes ravages ;
 Les collines, les monts, de frimas couronnés...
 Ce spectacle plaisait à mes sens étonnés.

VIENNE.—The ancient Vienna Allobrogum formerly contained many beautiful monuments of its antiquity ; but of all these nothing remains but undefinable ruins. The bridge built in the time of Tiberius is almost swept away, and the piles which do remain greatly impede the navigation of the *Rhône*. *Vienne* was formerly the capital of the *Allobroges*, whose ambassadors discovered to Cicero the conspiracy of Catiline ; it was in this town, that *Philippe le Bel* and Pope Alexander V. tried and condemned the Templars, whose immense riches they seized and converted to their own uses. Their wealth, not their crimes, (as has been the case in numerous instances with the Jews,) proved their ruin. The cathedral of *Vienne* is a fine-Gothic building.

It has manufactories of rateen, cloths, sail-cloths, tailors' pressing irons, copper, paper, glass, salt, and nitre. The excellent vineyards of Côte-Rotie are situated in its neighbourhood.

Long. 2° 32' E. ; lat. 45° 31' 55". One hundred and seventeen leagues from Paris.

The wine called *Hermitage* forms one of the grand articles of trade in this department.

There is a fountain in the meadows of *Septène*, about a league from *Vienne*, which throws up quantities of fish, particularly lampreys.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF DROME.

This is an inland département (S.) composed of a part of *Dauphiné*.

SOIL.—The face of the country is full of mountains and valleys; some parts exceedingly unproductive; others sufficiently rich to produce fine pasture lands, and the celebrated vines of Hermitage, and the *vin de Nyons*. The valley of the *Rhône* is enriched by mulberry, almond, and chestnut trees.

MOUNTAINS.—These may be considered as branches of the *Alpes*; they are covered with woods and forests.

RIVERS.—The *Rhône*, *Isère*, and the *Drôme*, are the principal. Between *Aspre* and *Vain*, the lake *des Eaux* abounds with leeches.

• **REMARKABLE PERSONS.**—*Jacques Bernard*, *Philis de la Tour*, *Dupin*, *Madame de Sevigné*, *Sevrin*, *Lally Tolendal*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the diocese of *Valence*. The Protestants have some churches in this département; its judicial administration depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Grenoble*, and it is comprised in the seventh military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

VALENCE is situated upon the left bank of the *Rhône*. The antiquity of this town is very great: it was founded fifteen hundred years before our present era. It subsequently became an important colony of the Romans; but, thanks to the ravages of the Goths, the Alans, and the Saracens,—and to the religious wars which have inundated this fine part of France, no one would give it credit for its former importance and magnificence. The buildings of most importance in these times are, the bishop's palace, and *l'École d'artillerie*. The polygon of the latter is very extensive and well situated; the ground being gravelly, every manœuvre may be performed, even after heavy rains, without the loss of any projectile. The citadel is not well fortified, but it contains beautiful gardens. The walk called *Champ de Mars*, and the terrace of the Prefecture, which runs along the bank of the *Rhône*, afford agreeable walks for the inhabitants. From the latter, the stupendous mountain of *Cresset*, in the de-

partment of *Pardèche*, lifts its lofty head, and forms a grand eastern outline to the picture.

Long. $2^{\circ} 33' 10''$; lat. $44^{\circ} 55' 59''$; One hundred, and thirty-eight leagues south-east from Paris. 72 posts and a quarter.

MONTÉLIMART.—This town is very pretty; it is surrounded by hills covered with vines and mulberry-trees; golden plain-shaded by fig-trees; almond-trees, orange-trees, and other trees of the south; among which meander the *Roërie* and the *Jubson*.

It carries on a small commerce in hats, leather, pottery, cotton-thread, worsted, &c. &c. It was in a cave of *Montélimart*, A.D. 1544, that many of the Protestants of the south of France assembled to hear their first preachers. In 1587 the Count of *Sugi* took the town, and three days afterwards the Protestants retook it during a severe storm. The massacre on this day was so great, that a well in its neighbourhood received the name of *le puits Sanguene*, which it still retains. The Admiral de *Coligny* after the battle of *Moncontour*, in vain attempted to take it; and his opponent in this instance was a woman, named *Margot Delage*: the admiral had succeeded in making a breach in the wall, and the city appeared on the point of being carried by assault, when this intrepid woman, followed by a troop of females rushed to the breach, where they so manfully exerted themselves, and so effectually drove back the besiegers, that after the loss of an arm, Margot returned triumphantly into the city, followed by her brave companions in arms. A statue was erected to her memory, which, though much mutilated, is still in existence.

GRIGNAN is mentioned as allied with the memory of *Madame de Sevigné* and her daughter. The former lies buried in the parish church, under a black marble tomb, upon which is the following inscription:—

“*Cy gît Marie de Rabutin-Clément, Marquise de Sevigné, décédée le 18 Avril 1696.*”

The castle she inhabited is in ruins. During the Vandalism of the Revolution it was partially destroyed, and the scythe of Time will soon complete the total demolition of this once-famed château.

A little to the south of *Montélimart* is *Pierrelate*, seated at the foot of a very high rock. An old, maid of the twelfth century instituted in this village a certain establishment, of which *l'abbé de la Jeunesse* was appointed the head and universal heir. Among

other whimsical conditions imposed by the old lady was this: that on a certain day, all the lads and lasses of the village, with the *abbé de la Jeunesse* at their head, should repair to her tomb, holding each a taper of red wax in his or her hands, singing as they went, *Requinez-vous mes belles, requinez-vous*. Just before the revolution the parliament had forbidden the ladies to dance and *de se requinquer*.

SAINT-PAUL-TROIL-CHATEAUX is the ancient *Augusta* of the *Tricastins*.—All the monuments of antiquity found in its neighbourhood prove that in days of olden time it was the seat of luxury: steel mirrors, accompanied always by their *box of patches*, and sepulchral urns, invariably adorned with the head of the stag, seem to intimate that Diana was the deity, *par excellence*, of the place.

At SUGÈ-LA-ROUSSE, where the Templars had a monastery, some persons, in 1751, who had been informed that one of the crimes imputed to the Templars was *idolatry*, and that they were said to have worshipped a golden goat and its kid, commenced a most inquisitorial search among the ruins of the edifice for this golden deity; but their search was in vain, for they found only a crucifix and a few pieces of money.

The *Mont Aiguille* is considered one of the wonders of this department, although it really belongs as much to *Isère*. The form of this rock has caused it to be named likewise *Mont Inaccessible*; it is so, in fact, without the aid of machines, because it is larger at the top than at the base. Its poetic origin is this: the gods and goddesses having assembled, on a certain day, on the summit of this mountain, the hunter *Ibicus* had the misfortune to surprise the goddesses at their toilet. Jupiter, on being informed of this circumstance, shook his ambrosial locks, and frowning revenge, with a thunder-bolt struck *Mont Aiguille*, and separated it from the chain to which it was formerly attached, and killed poor *Ibicus* on the spot. So much for fable,—which shall be followed by a fact. On the 26th June, 1492, Captain *Antoine Deville*, in order to please his monarch Charles VIII., mounted to the summit of this rock by means of a machine, accompanied by several persons equally bold as himself. They were surprised, on reaching the end of their journey, to find themselves in a beautiful meadow, watered by a fountain, in which a flock of chamois were peaceably grazing. The captain remained there six days. He caused mass to be said, and

planted three crosses, to commemorate his daring exploit. Near to this mountain is one no less curious: it is split from the top to the bottom, and this crevice has never been fathomed. In summer the air which escapes from it is exceedingly cool, and in the winter it is equally so hot, that the shepherds repair thither and seat themselves on one of its ledges, to warm their feet.

NYONS is a very ancient town, founded long before the christian era by a colony of Greeks. It is situated in a narrow defile, between the mountain *Devez* and the right bank of the *Eygues*, over which is a bridge of one arch. In the middle of the bridge is a little tower, under which it is necessary to pass: the gates, which formerly were opened or shut to admit the passers, have long ago been destroyed. The beautiful valley, which extends between this river and the *Rhone*, is very fertile, particularly in olives. There are two winds circulating in this valley that are very remarkable; the one, called *la Vesine*, which issues from the range of the mountains called *les Piles*, blows during the heat of the day: a little before this ceases, the other, named *le Pontias*, is perceptible; it proceeds from the fissures of the *Devez*, blows all night, is exceedingly cold and boisterous, and in the winter continues from five in the evening until ten the next day; but in the summer it is only felt during the night, and in extreme heats appears sometimes to be entirely absorbed. It generally follows the course of the *Eygues*; and it is not a little curious to see the trees along one side of the river agitated, while those in the valley, at a short distance, are comparatively motionless, and glittering with the dew-drops of the morning, which the boisterous wind is scattering from the others in a light spray. This is curious and interesting; but it is a much more inexplicable fact, that this wind follows the current of the stream from east to west on the side of *Nyons*, while on the opposite side of the river it passes at the same time from west to east. Philosophers have in vain attempted to explain this phenomenon. The historical records of this arrondissement are very melancholy, among which the names of *Montbrun*, *Des Adrets*, and *Lesdiguières*, stand conspicuous: they were all Protestants; the two latter, however, abjured their religion. *Montbrun* perished on the scaffold, and thus expiated a life of crimes and cruelty. But *Des Adrets* outdid all his compeers in deeds of atpcity. At

Mollans there are still the remains of an old castle, from the top of which he used to compel his prisoners to precipitate themselves. *Montbrun* had likewise a superb castle, near a village of the same name, where he lived in princely state; it was wonderfully adorned with every luxury, and *Mignard* spent two years of his life in ornamenting the interior with exquisite paintings in fresco. Its terraces were numerous; but the whole is now in so ruinous a state that it threatens daily to crush the village beneath. It was from one of these terraces that *Montbrun*, one day seeing a monk walking round the castle, called for his carbine, that he might kill a blackbird, and shot the poor monk dead on the spot.

CHATILLON was besieged in the time of Louis XI., and its convent was burnt, and all its monks perished. To the north-east of *Chatillon* rises the mountain of *Vercors*, formerly inhabited by wild boars and bears. Its wood is now richly stocked with game, such as the red partridge, and hares, and lambs of an excellent flavour, which are called *truans*.

The fountain of *Bordovre* issues from a rock of the same name in large bubbling drops: while the traveller is exclaiming in tones of admiration, he is surprised to hear his words distinctly repeated by the nymph of the fountain.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTES-ALPES.

This is a frontier department (S. E.), composed of a part of *Haut-Dauphiné* and *Provence*.

MOUNTAINS.—The French *Alpes* display all the grandeur, beauty, and picturesque wildness, characteristic of high and mountainous regions: the snowy summit, the glacier, the avalanche, the foaming torrent, all add their imposing effects to their majestic grandeur. *Mont Blanc* is 4,810 metres above the level of the sea, and *Mont Pelvoux*, the highest in the French *Alpes*, is 4,350; showing that there is but little difference between the two.

These mountains and their ramifications extend into seven departments; viz.:—*Isère*, *Hautes-Alpes*, *Basses-Alpes*, *Var*, *Bouches-du-Rhone*, *Vaucluse*, and *Drôme*.

The highest point of vegetation is 2,350 feet above the sea level, and the highest points of habitation are as follows:—

	Feet.		Feet.
<i>Gap</i>	2,280	<i>Chateau de Queryos</i>	3,350
<i>Chorges</i>	2,745	<i>Bourg de Monerlier</i>	4,545
<i>Embrun</i>	2,790	<i>Village de Mourin</i>	5,706
<i>Guillestre</i>	3,090	<i>Saint-Veran</i>	6,180
<i>Châteauroux</i>	3,132	<i>Bourg-du-Genèvre</i>	6,222
<i>Bourg de Vallouise</i>	3,705	<i>Fort de l'Infernet</i>	6,200
<i>Briançon</i>	3,918		

The glaciers are circumscribed by the *Vallée de la Grave* to the north, *la Vallouise* to the south, *le Val-Godemard* to the south-west, and *Oisans* to the west.

VALLEYS.—The basins formed by the principal rivers comprehend sixty-five valleys. The basin of the *Durance* contains twenty-seven; besides that of *Guitar-de-Queyras*, which subdivides itself into eleven secondary valleys. The basin of the *Buech* contains fifteen valleys; that of *Eygues* is composed of five valleys; and lastly, that of *Drac* into seven. All these valleys derive their names from the torrents which water them, or from the neighbouring mountains.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Durance*, the *Drac*, the *Buech*, the *Eygues*, and the *Guil*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Auger de Balber*, grand master of Malta; the troubadour *Albert de Gap*; *Birord*; the constable *Lesdiguères*; *Jean Morel*; cardinal de *Tencin*; his sister, the mother of *d'Algerbert*; the celebrated *Roland*, member of the constituent assembly; and many generals.

This department is divided into three arrondissements, viz. *Embrun*, *Briançon*, and *Gap*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the bishop of *Digne*. The reformed of the department have at *Orpierre* a consistorial church, divided into two sections, served by two pastors, residing at *Orpierre* and at *Arvieux*. There are besides, temples or houses for divine service at *Molines*, *Clarusans*, *la Baume*, *Saint-Veran*, *Fressinières*, *Saint-Laurent*, *Vars*, and at the hamlet of *Chazelet*. The Protestants have a bible society, a society of evangelical missionaries, and a society for religious tracts.

• The judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Aix*, and it is comprised in the eighth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

GAP is situated at the foot of a mountain, upon the river *Baume*: it is an ancient town, supposed to be the *Vapinicum* of the Romans. The city itself consists of about a dozen ill-paved, irregular streets, the windows of which exhibit more paper than glass. The square, or *Place St. Arnoud*, contains the cathedral, the *préfecture*, and the theatre. In the former is a mausoleum in marble of the *connétable de Lesdiguières*; the second is remarkable for its gardens only; and as for the third, it is upon a par with that of the *theatre des Pygmées* at Paris; but its doors are ever closed, so that it answers its purpose as well as if it were larger, for "nothing can come of nothing." The territory of Gap is mountainous, interspersed with valleys fruitful in corn and pasture-lands; affording ample amusement to the sportsman, for game is most abundant.

The inhabitants of Gap play much at bowls, but not in the usual way, for the excellence of the game consists in throwing the ball so that no one shall pick it up. Among the animal curiosities may be reckoned *cruel sheep*. Each butcher keeps one fat, unshorn sheep; the tufts of his wool are tied with many coloured ribbons, and thus gaily adorned he marches before his less happy brethren, and conducts them to the slaughter-house; this service performed, he returns quietly to his meadow, to browse on the velvet turf and drink of the crystal brook.

Just outside of the town there are fine infantry barracks.

Long. $3^{\circ} 44' 57''$ E.; lat. $44^{\circ} 33' 52''$. One hundred and fifty-two leagues south-east from Paris.

• EMBRUN is a very ancient fortified town, built on a steep rock, at the foot of which rolls the *Durance*. It ranks among the most elevated towns in Europe: it is considered impregnable. In the time of Nero and Galba, *Embrun Ebrodunum* enjoyed great privileges.

MONT DAUPHIN may be rather called a fort than a town, for it consists of two mean streets only; but the government edifices are handsome, being almost entirely built of red marble. The church was commenced upon the design of St. Peter's, at Rome, but it had scarcely appeared above ground, when the choir was hastily finished and inclosed with wood. The *casermates*, the

subterraneous apartments of the fortress, are exceedingly fine. During the late European wars, they served as prisons for the English who were taken captive by the French. This country abounds in fortifications, which protect the frontiers of the same from foreign invaders.



Fort de Queyras.

QUEYRAS.—This village is in itself of little importance; but the fortified castle, and the buildings attached to it, are well worthy of attention. It is seated upon so steep and inaccessible a mountain, that the cannon which serve for its defence are founded on the spot. This rock is split in two, and the little stream of the *Guil* winds through all its sinuosities, over which two bridges have been thrown. The space on which the castle stands is small, and there is just room enough for the barracks and the governor's house, and no more: they are enclosed within a wall, and fortunately in the court there is a fine and abundant spring of water. On one side of the rock a frightful gorge presents itself, through which rushes a mountain torrent; on the other, broken and lofty cliffs, of many fantastic forms, add not a little to the wild and imposing scenery. The castle is backed by high and lofty glaciers. The passes between *Queyras* and *Briançon* are called the *Col-des-Haies* and the *Col-des-d'Isoard*; and these roads, during eight months of the year, are covered with snow,

and are very dangerous to pass. This valley of *Queyras* is, in fact, what all the valleys, both of the Alps and Pyrenees are, an extent of country intersected by rocks and mountains, intermingled with actual valleys, watered by streams and rivulets, or traversed by torrents, and confined by higher mountains.

At the foot of one of the high Alps which separate the department of the *Hautes-Alpes* from that of *Isère*, there is an hospice called *Hospice-du-Lautaret*, erected by the government for the benefit of benighted travellers. Posts are placed at certain distances on the road leading to the hospice, which point out the way by day, and during the night lanterns are suspended to them, and even in very snowy weather all the day likewise, as guides to the houseless wanderers of these wilds.

Near to this hospitable dwelling there is a glacier almost perpendicular, and 1600 feet high.

Briançon, the ancient *Brigantia*, is situated on a steep rock. There is but one street which can be frequented by carriages, and that even with difficulty, it is so precipitous: it is totally out of the question to make such an attempt in any other street. Seven forts defend *Briançon*; five of them are situated on the left bank of the *Durance*. They all defend the town and the valley which surrounds it; but should they be captured, they can of course batter it to pieces, or even destroy each other. The highest of these forts, the *Infernal*, is so loftily situated, that it is impossible from the lower grounds to distinguish its different parts. The communication of this fort with the city, as well as of forts *Trois-têtes* and *Randouillet*, is by means of a bridge thrown from rock to rock over the *Durance*, which is here so rapid, that although it looks as if it could be crossed by one spring by an active man, yet it foams and rolls with such rapidity that no one would dare the attempt. The bridge is hollow, and it is rather passed through than over; the span of the arch is 120 feet, its height is 160 feet.

The territory of *Briançon* produces mules and cattle. There is a crystal rock mine in its vicinity: in 1780, a manufacture was established for converting this crystal into vases and ornaments of various kinds. A kind of manna is likewise collected from the larch-tree, which forms a small article of commerce. The most fertile part of the country is the beautiful valley, which extends as far as *Oisans*, upon the road to *Grenoble*. The wine

of the country is good for nothing; in short, the only wine drunk at Briançon is brought from *Provence* in goat-skins, on the backs of mules. Among the natural curiosities of *Briançon* is a little stream which runs through the principal street of the town; in fact, in winter the descent of the waters is so rapid, and at all times so steep, that should any one fall into the stream he is hurried out of sight in a few minutes; for it rushes through an opening in the rock, and falls from the height of fifty feet into the *Durance*. The streets of the town can only be safely traversed in winter by means of clamp-irons fastened to the shoes.

The women of the middling ranks at *Briançon* are almost all lame, from accidents which it is difficult to avoid, and they are nearly all *goitreuses*: this complaint, which arises from the climate, is very common in Switzerland, and is said to proceed from the use of snow water. They are besides much exposed to fatigue and labour. It is no uncommon thing to see a woman dragging a plough, in company with two donkeys: and will it be believed, that in the land of gallantry, a labourer will lend his wife to his neighbour, to assist in ploughing or carting manure, on condition that he will return the compliment in time of need. Sometimes a woollen petticoat may be her reward for this toilsome duty; but even in the north of France the women reap, &c.

The department of the *Hautes-Alpes* is perhaps one of the most interesting, as having been the refuge of the early christians in times of persecution, and whose descendants still inhabit the inaccessible retreats of their forefathers. They are now called *Protestants*; but the appellation is scarcely applicable to this body of primitive christians, for it has been evidently proved, by the Rev. William Gilly, who has published "the Life of *Petio Neff*, Pastor of the Alps," that their ancestors never embraced the Roman faith, but that through a succession of ages they preserved the christian faith in its native simplicity, uncorrupted, as given to them by the first teachers of christianity. The situation, among their almost inaccessible mountains, their solitude, their patois, and their want of pastors, may have in some degree contributed to cherish many local customs and prejudices, which have separated them from the rest of mankind: but the manners of this peaceful race are comparatively pure: they are hospitable and frank, and their feelings are warm and affectionate. Their attachment to those pastors, and their con-

sciousness of the great benefits they have received from their instruction, absence does not weaken. Mr. Gilly relates that one of the mountaineers, when speaking to Felix Neff of a pastor who had left them, and had taken leave of them in the pathetic words of St. Paul, telling them that "*they should see his face no more*," thus expressed himself—"It seemed as if a gust of wind had blown out the torch which was to light us in our passage by night across the precipice." When the Protestants of *Val Loutise* were exterminated, when those of *Val Queyras* had escaped the same fate by conforming themselves to the Roman Catholic religion, then these christians of the *Hautes Alpes* fled to their inaccessible rocks for refuge. In one instance these did not protect them; for there is a cave in which many had secreted themselves, which their inflexible persecutors stopped up with brushwood, which they kindled, and thus destroyed the sufferers within. But the reader is referred to the work alluded to, which is one of intense interest.*

In the winter these regions cannot be traversed without difficulty: independently of the inclemency of the weather, the traveller who ventures to penetrate these solitudes has to encounter the ravenous wolf and the no less fearful bear.

Long. $4^{\circ} 16' E.$; lat. $44^{\circ} 52'.$

Upon the mountain *Le Seuze* there is a lake, renowned for its floating island. This island is about nine feet broad and nine feet wide: a man standing upon it can with a pole move it to any part of the lake; it is called the *motte tremblante*. Not far from this wonder there is a lake that cannot be fathomed, and likewise a deep gulf, traversed at the bottom by a rapid subterraneous torrent, the noise of which is evidently heard, though its source lies far beyond the reach of the human eye.

The inhabitants of this département are, many of them, objects of commiseration, if poverty can be termed an evil, where it produces a display of charity rarely met with in more luxuriant countries. Here, if a poor man die, and leave a widow and helpless orphan children, his previous anxiety on their account is small; for if they be sick, he knows the neighbours will assist to nurse them: if their cottage fall into decay, the neighbours

* Memoir of Felix Neff, Pastor of the High Alps, &c. by William Stephen Gilly, M. A., Prebendary of Durham, &c. London. 8vo. 1832.

will repair it: they will till the field, and if one of the cattle perish, they will replace it. Money is devoted by the comparatively wealthy, and labour by the strong, to repair those evils, which Providence inflicts, as the fountains of benevolence, from whence springs such god-like charity.

In the canton of *Briançon*, if a cow or sheep fall, and is so hurt that it must be killed, the loss falls upon the community at large. When a child has attained the age of one year, the parents purchase an ewe-lamb; when this lamb is full grown its ewe-lambs are all preserved, so that by the time the child is sixteen, if a girl she has a *dot*, a portion, and if a boy he has a flock to commence the world with.

Many of their customs are not only singular, but interesting and curious; for example the following:—

In the *commune* of *Guillaume-Perouse*, at the village of *Andrieux*, where the inhabitants are deprived during one hundred days of the bright beams of the sun, there is a fête, called *Le retour du soleil*, on the 10th of February. At the dawn of day, four shepherds announce, to the sound of fifes and trumpets, the commencement of this joyous day. Every cottager having prepared an omelette, the eldest inhabitant of the village, to whom the title of *Vénérable* is given, leads the way to the square; here they form a chain and dance the *serafidola* round him: after the dance is concluded, he leads the way to a stone bridge at the entrance of the village, the shepherds playing upon their rural instruments the while. Every one having deposited his omelette on the stone coping, they repair to a neighbouring meadow, where the dancing recommences and continues until the first rays of the sun gleam athwart the velvet turf: the dance then instantly ceases, each one hastens for his pancake, and holding it up, presents it as an offering to the god of day; the *Vénérable* holds his up with both his hands. As soon as the sun shines upon the village the procession returns to the square, where the party separates, and every one repairs to his own home, to eat his pancake with his family. This ceremony cannot fail to recal the heathen mythology to the reader, who must see in it the offerings made to Apollo; or, perhaps, it may be the remains of some druidical superstition, as the druids paid particular devotion to the sun; at any rate, it is a curious vestige of some religion long since gone by. In some of the *communes* of this

department the dead are wrapped in a winding-sheet, but are not inclosed in a coffin. In the valleys of *Queyras* and of *Grave*, the dead are suspended in a barn during five months in the winter, until the earth be softened by the sun's rays, when the corpse is consigned to its native element. All funeral ceremonies are closed by eating and drinking. In some communes the people carry a flagon of wine to the church-yard; and on the return of the guests to the home of the deceased, it becomes a scene of bacchanalian revels, in which the groans and sighs of the mourners mingle with the songs and jests of the inebriated guests. At *Argentiere*, after the burial, the tables are set out round the church-yard; that of the curate and the mourning family over the grave itself. The dinner concluded, the nearest relation takes a glass; his example is followed by the rest, repeating with him, *A la santé du pauvre mort*.

The dress of the women consists of a coarse woollen garment, and their ornaments, of a silver or iron chain round their waists. Their shoes are about an inch thick in the sole; to which is added a nail, the head of which is nearly as large as a walnut, in order to enable them to climb the mountains, which are steep and slippery. The chamois and marmotte abound in the neighbourhood. Indeed the skins of the former constitute an article of commerce; and the latter form the riches of the little emigrants, who quit their mountains to seek a scanty subsistence elsewhere. The elder wanderers act as schoolmasters, water-carriers, porters, scissor-grinders, &c. During the absence of the husbands and sons, the wives occupy themselves in making cheeses, which are excellent. If new bread be asked for by a traveller in these regions, he will be presented with that which has been baked three or four months, for among themselves they never eat it until it be six months old; it is then scraped with a knife, and reduced to powder. Travelling in this part of France may be agreeable to the lover of nature and the artist, for on every side they will be lost in admiration at the romantic and grand scenery which surrounds them—perpendicular rocks, round which wind roads so dangerous that the most cautious and skilful muleteers frequently fail in guiding their beasts safely down the circuitous, and in some cases, angular routes,—foaming torrents in the valley,—overhanging woods, and snow-crowned peaks towering to the clouds, amidst which occasionally the spire of a church is

faintly marked against the clear sky,—and beside the peaceful house of prayer rises the frowning battlement, with all its attendant concomitants of war. Such are the scenes which present themselves in this department, and some of those which adjoin it.

SECTION XXII.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF LYONNOIS

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF LOIRE AND RHONE.

I.—DEPARTMENT OF LOIRE.

THIS is an inland department, (*centre*,) composed of a part of *Lyonnois* called *Forez*, and *Beaujolais*.

SOIL.—This department consists of a plain, through which flows the Loire; it is exceedingly fertile, producing corn in small quantities, excellent pasturage, fruits, and wine in perfection. The adjacent mountainous districts are stony and unfruitful.

MOUNTAINS.—That branch of the *Cevennes* denominated *Mountains of Rhone*, runs from north to south, along the eastern frontier. The chesnut-tree abounds in these mountains.

RIVERS.—The *Loire* runs from south to north, intersecting it almost into two equal parts. The *Rhone* passes along the eastern frontier.

MINES.—There are very fine mines of lead and coal in this department, as well as quarries of mill-stones and flints.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Jacques Pernetty*, *Saint Symphorien-de-Lays*, the family of *Forez*, *abbé Duguel*, *Duverdier*, &c.

This department is divided into three *arrondissements*, viz:—*Montbrisson*, *Rianni*, and *St. Etienne*. It is included in the nineteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MONTBRISSON, seated on the river *Reaze*, is the capital: it is tolerably well built, but the streets are irregular, and the ruins of its castle is the only object of interest it contains. The historic records of this town are too melancholy to dwell upon; suffice it to say, that the monster *Des Adrets* figures in them as one of the chief actors. A Gascon whom he had made prisoner at the siege

of *Montbrisson*, which he had reduced to a heap of ruins, was the last of many whom he had selected as objects of his particular vengeance. The unfortunate companions of this poor man had all perished, by the leap they were compelled to take from the battlements. Thrice this man drew back when in the attitude of springing, terrified at the fate which awaited him. *Des Adrets* mocked him, called him coward, and at length said, "I give you one more chance." The Gascon, without being disconcerted, turned to the baron, and said, "*Eh ! vien, sandis, bons qui parlez, monsieur le varon, jé bons le donne en trois.*"* *Des Adrets*, who had remained deaf to the cries of thousands, pardoned the Gascon.

The inhabitants of this town manufacture painted cloths and coloured paper. Its territory produces mulberry-trees, silk, and mineral waters.

Long. $1^{\circ} 42'$ E.; lat. $45^{\circ} 32'$. One hundred and three leagues south-east from Paris; sixty-one posts and a half.

SAINT-ETIENNE.—The chief occupation of the people of this town is in making fire-arms, cutlery, and all kinds of iron ware. The small river *Furens*, in the neighbourhood, is excellent for tempering the metal, and the earth abounds with whetstones for sharpening and polishing it; besides which, there are large mines of peat-coal, which is useful in the forges. One of the mines ignited, and in 1715, an opening being made, the flames burst forth, and it was with much difficulty the fissure was stopped up and the current of air checked. Near *Saint Charmont* there is a coal-mine, containing some very curious scaly stones, which when split bear the engraved impressions of one or more leaves on the one side, and on the other half the leaves are embossed; but what renders this phenomena the more curious is this, that all these leaves belong to plants which are foreign to France, and are only to be found in the East Indies, or in the burning climates of America.

Mont Pilate, which rises eighteen hundred feet above the waters of the *Rhone*, is not far from *Saint-Charmont*. It derives its name from Pontius Pilate, who, banished by Tiberius, sought an asylum in this mountain. The surface of this mountain offers an agreeable walk to the botanist, for it is comparatively smooth

* The Gascons use the *b* for the *v*; and vice versa, place the *v* for the *b*.

and practicable; it abounds with Alpine plants and birds of every description: from its summits the mountains of Switzerland and *Auvergne* may be seen. The goats'-milk cheeses made in its neighbourhood are excellent.

ROANNE is the ancient capital of **ROANNEZ**, named also *Rodunna*. This town owes its present prosperity to an Englishman, who established several manufactories within it; besides this, it has become the mart for all the merchandise of *Lyons*, *Languedoc*, and *Provence*, destined for *Paris*, which are conveyed from thence by the canal *de Briare*. The ancient college built by the Jesuits is very fine.

Long. $1^{\circ} 44' 30''$ E.; lat. $46^{\circ} 2' 29''$. Ninety-two leagues south-east from Paris.

There is a mountain near *Ferns* which rises from the middle of a plain: it is purely basaltic, and is evidently an extinguished volcano, although neither crater nor any other indication of subterraneous fire is visible. The wine called *Coterotie*, so highly valued, is produced in this department.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF RHONE.

The department of the *Rhone* is inland (E.) and is formed of the *Lyonnois* and *Beaujolais*.

SOIL.—The soil contains much mineral riches: it is generally stony, and therefore well fitted for the culture of the vine, which thrives exceedingly in silicious earth.

MOUNTAINS.—The face of the country presents a map of mountains and hills, enclosing picturesque valleys, but of small extent. The *Cevennes* extend from north to south; and among these the *Mont Pilate* is the most elevated. At the summit of this mountain is a small lake of great depth, which is the source of the *Gersand*. The neighbouring inhabitants affirm that the excavation or basin which this lake occupies was formed by the gold-mine once worked by Pontius Pilate; and as the river does in fact carry with it some small flakes of gold, the legend is as firmly believed as that the lake now exists. The miserable beings who waste their time in collecting these *paillettes* of gold are called *orpailleurs*. In the summer-time a cloud of vapour rises from this lake, which progressively yet rapidly covers all the neighbouring forests, and which is only dispersed by a severe thunder-storm.

*Grotto des Estrois.*

RIVERS.—The *Rhone* and the *Saône* are the two navigable rivers: the *Grier* and the torrent *d'Iseron* are tributaries of the *Rhone*; the *Ardiere* and the *Azergue* of the *Saône*. The interior navigation is promoted by the canal of *Givors*, which is connected by a rail-road with the *Rhone* and the *Loire*.

MINES.—The mineral riches of this department are very considerable. Its mountains contain gold. At *Chirsey* and *Saint-Bel* are the richest copper-mines in France. At *Poule* the lead-mines contain silver; and at *Saint-Fay-l'Argentière* there are pit-coals, in which slate is found, bearing the impression of plants, fishes, &c. Rock crystal, common amethyst, porphyry, black, deep blue, purple, and reddish. Many fossil shells are found in *Mont d'Or*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—A school of arts and trades, a collection of monuments; an academy of science, one belles-lettres, and arts; and also a literary society, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The emperors *Caracalla* and *Claudius Nero*; the poet *Sidonius Apollinarius*; pope *Clement IV.*; *Verquier*; *Via*; *Roland*; the sanguinary *Chalier*; and marshal *Suchet*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic; forming part of the diocese of *Lajosh*. The Protestants have a consistorial church and two temples.

This department is divided into two arrondissements, viz. *Lyon* and *Villefranche*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LYON.—The history of this city is traced back so far as six hundred years before the Christian era. Its foundation is attributed to a colony of Greeks, under the command of their leader Momorus, who being compelled by the Phœcians settled at Marseilles, to proceed up the Rhone, they continued their voyage until they reached a mountain upon the confluence of the Saone and the Rhoné, upon which a very large flock of crows settled. This was considered a good omen by Momorus, and here he laid the first stone of his city, calling it *Lugdunum*, from *Lygdos*, which signifies a crow. In the time of Nero it had become a most important Roman colony; but unfortunately, in the reign of that emperor, it was consumed by a raging fire in the course of one night. Seneca interceded with his master, and persuaded him to contribute largely to the restoration of the ruined city, much about the same time that Rome was destroyed, with his connivance, if not by his actual orders, by the same destructive element. Its present name of *Lyon* is derived from Mark Antony, as well as its arms, viz. a lion, which was the attribute or emblem given to Mark Antony. This great warrior had erected a fine aqueduct, which conducted the waters of *Furens* to the city, from the distance of seven leagues. The adjacent mountain of *Fourvières* derives its name from a superb market built by Trajan, and which was in existence in the time of *Charles le Chauve*. The present city does not actually occupy the same spot; it is built between the Rhone and the Saone, and is, next to Paris, the finest city in France. The *Hôtel de Ville* is a magnificent building; it is of an oblong form, consisting of two fine fronts joined together by two wings; it is said to rival that of Amsterdam. Two groups, representing the Rhone and the Saone, are placed on each side of the vestibule; they formerly ornamented the statue of Louis XIV., which was placed in the middle of the *Place Terreaux*.

It was in the church of *St. Jean* that the body of *St. Louis* was placed, on its way to Paris, when brought from Tunis, where that monarch died. The clock of this church used to be compared to that of Strasbourg; but it is out of repair, having been totally neglected since the year 1793. The face of the dial is of

an elliptical form, and the hand was so ingeniously contrived, that as it passed over the narrow part of the ellipse it shortened itself six inches. A cock placed upon the dome, which surmounts the clock, announced the hour by flapping his wings and crowing three times; a Swiss placed upon the balcony which crowns this dome, struck the hours with a hammer. The chapter formerly belonging to this church was exceedingly powerful; it was composed of thirty-two canons, who were counts of Lyon, and they bent only one knee at the elevation of the host! The churches of *Saint Paul*, *Saint Nizier*, and of the *Cordeliers*, are fine buildings. The church of *Saint Irénée* contains an inscription to the memory of 29,000 Christians who suffered martyrdom under the reign of the emperor Severus: a well is still pointed out as containing many of their bones. The church of *Ainay* occupies the spot upon which sixty Gaulish nations had erected a temple to the memory of Augustus. In the ninth year of the Christian era, Donus, father of Claudius, instituted games which were celebrated near this altar, when prizes for eloquence and poetry were distributed. Caligula, who seemed born to sport with the lives and feelings of mankind, imposed the following fines upon the vanquished:—they were compelled to furnish the prizes of the victors, and publicly to efface their own writings with a sponge, or, as it might please the whim of the emperor, with their tongues. If they refused to fulfil these terms, they were either whipped, or without further ceremony flung into the Rhone.

L'Hospice des Anticailles, situated upon the side of the mountain *Fourvières*, receives its name from the circumstance that it is not possible to dig within its vicinity without finding some remains of antiquity. The palace of the Prætor formerly occupied this site; several emperors sojourned within its walls, and the emperors Claudius and Antonine were born there. The college possesses an observatory, from which may be discovered the mountains of *la Grande Chartreuse*, and beyond them the higher Alps, covered with perpetual snows. The library fronts the Rhone; it is admired and valued even by those who have seen that of the Vatican at Rome. The view from this building is superb. The museum contains many precious relics of antiquity. The botanic gardens, the hospital, and the theatre, are all equally deserving the notice of the curious traveller. *Le Quai St. Claire* unites all the majesty of the *Quai Voltaire* with the beauty of the Boulevards of Paris. The beautiful *Allée de Perroche*, commonly

called *travaux de Perrache*, from the name of its author, is a delightful walk. On the banks of the Saône stands the archiepiscopal palace: it was in the court of this palace that the unfortunate Protestants, condemned by the massacre of St. Bartholomew, were executed. The soldiers upon this occasion refused to execute the commands of their superiors, and the public executioners followed their praiseworthy example, and the butchers of the town performed the repugnant office. The bridges of Lyon are not remarkable for their beauty; that opposite the archbishop's palace, over the Saône, is the finest. On the opposite side of the Saône is a rock called *Pierre seize*, upon which was a fortress that had been used as a state-prison: *Bouie Sforza*, duke of Milan, *le baron des Adrets*, the duke of Nemours, *De Thou*, and *Cinq Mars*, were confined within it. In 1793, this fortress was destroyed. The statue of *Jean de Cleberg*, called *l'homme de la Roche*, has been replaced upon this rock; he was a native of Nuremberg, who had adopted Lyon as his country. Under Francis the First, he consecrated his arms to the service of that king, and his fortune to his adopted countrymen. He is represented armed cap-a-pie, holding a halberd in his right hand, and in his left a purse.

The coffee-houses of Lyon almost excel those of Paris in luxury.

The political events of which Lyon has been the theatre, have been already mentioned in the history of France.

Lyon is one of the most commercial towns of France. The manufactures consist of gold and silver stuffs, leather, hats, caps, ribbons, silk stockings, gauzes, mercery, artificial flowers, buttons, gold and silver lace, printed cloths, &c. &c.

The *pont Saint Esprit* is one of the most singular bridges in Europe. Many fabulous accounts are given of its origin; but the simple matter of fact is, that the first stone was laid on the 12th September, 1265, by the *prieur de Saint Saturnin du port*, *Jean de Tyanges*, and that the work once commenced was completed in 1309, in the reign of *Philippe-le-bel*, who, in order to perpetuate his joy on this occasion, exempted the bridge and its dependencies from the jurisdiction of the principal church of St. Saturnin; ordering besides, that the alms of the faithful should be devoted to the service of the chapel and hospital,* which had

* This Hospital was established in 1281; it contained twelve *frères donnés*, whose business it was to assist in constructing the bridge, and

been built close to it. The inhabitants of Saint Saturin were at that period almost all devoted to a religious life, and they had contributed largely to the funds for the erection of this bridge. Philippe also imposed a tax, called *petit blanc*, of five farthings, Tours money, for every *minot* of salt (a measure equal to three bushels) which ascended the Rhone. Such is the origin of this bold piece of architecture of the middle ages, which has stood the current of the rapid Rhone during six hundred years.

This bridge, which is not constructed in a straight line, is formed of two parts, which meet at an obtuse angle, where the current is strongest. It is 2550 feet long; the passage over it is 12 feet, and to the outer edge of the parapet it measures 17 feet. This is the great defect of the bridge—accidents sometimes happen, and always much inconvenience is the result of this confined, narrow public road, which is dangerous, in the hours of principal traffic, for foot-passengers to traverse. It might easily be widened on each side, by a balcony of cast-iron, or even of wood, projecting nine feet wide, for the use of foot-passengers.

The pier at which the angle is formed is called *Saint Nicolas*; it is considerably longer than any of the others. The bridge consists of 36 arches of different sizes; the largest are 96 feet in *clear span*. It is erected partly upon piles and partly upon a rocky foundation: 277 feet rest upon the latter, and 888 upon piles. Its height from the water is about 48 feet. The piles consist of solid masses of circular masonry, upon which rest the hexagonal piers of solid masonry, and from these spring the arches. These piers, where the stream is strongest, have been pierced with many holes, through which the current passes. Many accidents formerly happened in the navigation of the Rhone, near this bridge; but in latter years, accurate cognizance has been taken of its depth, the nature of the soil beneath it, the strength of the current, the shallows, &c.; and experienced pilots now meet the passage-boats at stated places, and for a small compensation

-
- some of them were deputed to go and beg in Christian countries, for money to assist in completing the work; and twelve *sœurs données*, who submitted to certain rules and wore a particular dress: their office consisted in nursing the sick work-people and attending to their comfort. The hospital having been destroyed, it erect the citadel upon its site, this institution gradually dwindled away, and totally disappeared at the period of the revolution of 1789.

conduct them safely through the perilous navigation of this river. The distance between *Arignon* and *Lyon* by land is 210 miles; the sinuosities of the river make it much greater by water, yet the passage is effected in ten hours.

The passage through the bridge is terrifying to a stranger. The prow of the vessel is directed precisely towards the pier which it is to pass; the rapidity of the stream gives velocity to the vessel that is inconceivable; it appears as if it would be dashed to pieces against the bridge; but the wave, which is incessantly increased round the pier by the resistance of the latter, bursts, and rushing through the arch, it hurries the boat with it. This operation is instantaneous, and the affrighted stranger on turning his head, or opening his eyes—for terror often compels him to shut them—sees the bridge far, far behind him.

Long. $2^{\circ} 29' 9''$ E.; lat. $45^{\circ} 52'$. One hundred and eleven leagues south-east from Paris.

About a league from Lyon is the celebrated *Ile Barbe*, so often described by the poet, so often painted by the artist, that its beauties scarcely strike those who are familiar with their productions. *L'Ile Barbe* is an object of interest as well as beauty. Tradition affirms, that in former times this island was covered with impenetrable forests, within the dark precincts of which the Druids celebrated the mysteries of their cruel religion, which has been already described. In the reign of Septimius Severus, when the Christians were obliged to flee for safety to the inaccessible caves and recesses of the mountains, to the dark glens of the forests, a body of these persecuted beings took refuge in the *Ile Barbe*. In 240, A.D., a monastery was built on the northern extremity of the island, which was consecrated to the apostle St. Andrew in particular, and to the rest of the apostles. *Saint Ambroise*, *Saint Maurice*, and *Saint Loup*, who was archbishop of Lyon, were among the celebrated characters who issued from this monastery. The early kings of France patronized this religious house, and endowed it largely. At the height of its prosperity, a band of Saracens sailed up the Rhone, committing dreadful devastations on each side the river: the temples were pillaged, the altars thrown down, the houses sacked, the inhabitants murdered, and the forests burnt. *L'Ile Barbe* partook in this fatal calamity; nor was it until the reign of Charlemagne,



The Island of Barbe.

that the monastery was rebuilt. The religious ceremonies celebrated at Easter and Pentecost, drew an immense crowd of pilgrims to this beautiful spot, who, after the performance of their religious duties, assembled, agreeably to the customs permitted by their religion, in the most festive scenes of gaiety and song. The religious fêtes have disappeared with the monastery; pilgrimages to the Isle of Barbe are, however, still performed, but for the purposes of pleasure only. The waters of the Saone glide so gently round this island, that they more resemble those of a lake than a flowing stream, and might well excite that most beautiful expression of Cæsar—"that with the eyes it is not possible to discern which way the river flows."* Formerly *L'Ile Barbe* was approached by boats; but suspension-bridges now connect it with the opposite sides of the river.

VILLEFRANCHE is composed of one long street, and its cathedral, from its antiquity, is the only building worthy of being mentioned. The beauty of the women is also named as one of its distinguishing characteristics. The wines of *Congrieux* are celebrated, the muslins of *Tarare* deserve notice; and now the description of the interesting department of the Rhone is finished.

* *Flumen est Arar, quod per fines Eduorum et Sequanorum in Rhodanum influit incredibili lenitate; ita ut oculis, in utram partem fluat, judicari non possit.*—*Cœs. de Bell. Gall.* lib. i. c. 12.

SECTION XXIII.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF FRANCHE COMTÉ,
CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF HAUTE SAONE, DOUBS, AND
JURA.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE SAONE.

THIS is an inland department (E.) formed of the bailliage of *Amont*, and a part of *Franche Comté*.

SOIL.—The soil is sufficiently luxuriant to produce corn, and the vine, with abundance of vegetables.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Vosges* border it on the east; they are here round, and received the name of *ballon*, as the *ballon de Lure*, of *Servance*, &c.

RIVERS.—The *Saone* rises in this department, and traverses, from north-east to south-west, the *Caney Lanterne* and the *Ognon*.

FORESTS.—The forests furnish much timber for building; they occupy the mountains, amidst the most picturesque scenery of torrents, cascades, lofty mountains, and deep valleys.

MINES.—Iron and coal are plentiful.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are several of these in this department. The establishment at *Luxeuil* is the most celebrated in France.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Besançon*. The Protestants have a church at *Hericourt*, upon which five pastors are dependent; and the Jews have three synagogues. *Haute Saone* depends for its judicial administration upon the *Cour Royale* of *Besançon*, and it forms part of the sixteenth military division.

The department is divided into three *arrondissements*. viz. :—*Veroul*, *Gray*, and *Lure*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

VESOUL is a town of no interest; it is seated at the foot of the *Motte de Vesoul*, a solitary mountain 90,000 feet in circumference at the foot, rising from the plain in the form of a cone. The only buildings worth looking at are the cathedral and the *Hôtel-de-Ville*.

It also contains an drangery, a nursery-ground, and barracks; and all is sold. The environs are, however, more attractive. Not far from the town is the *Puits-frais*, an immense natural well, eighty feet wide, and one hundred and twenty deep, terminating in the form of a tunnel. The water may be seen bubbling from a fissure in the rock; but when it rains, the well is filled by subterraneous springs, which soon overflow the plain: it is even said, that if the rain continue forty-eight hours, a *jet d'eau* will rise to the height of twenty or thirty feet. In 1557, when the Spaniards laid siege to this town, and had almost succeeded in compelling the inhabitants to open their gates, a heavy rain fell on the 14th November, and in twenty-four hours afterwards this well overflowed its brink, and laid the adjacent country under water. The Spaniards imagined that the besieged had opened their sluices, and fled, leaving behind them their artillery and stores. There is also a mineral spring in the vicinity, which has neither taste nor smell.

Its environs produce corn, vines, wood, and pasturage.

Long. $3^{\circ} 49' 39''$ E.; lat. $47^{\circ} 37' 50''$. Eighty-five leagues south-east from Paris. Forty-three ports and a half.

Near *Noyon*, which lies to the east of *Nerval*, is a grotto of much beauty, in which a stream that crosses it freezes in the summer, and flows freely in the winter.

Luxeuil is celebrated for its warm baths; and if we except its cheeses, called *Têtes de Moines*, this town possesses no other attraction.

The little village of *Jonvelle* gave birth to the celebrated *La Tremouille*, who so faithfully served Louis XI., Charles VIII., Louis XII., and Francis I., and who was killed at the battle of Pavia, where his unfortunate master was made prisoner. The public carriages in this part of France are not the most convenient; they consist of two benches facing the sides of the roads, the travellers sitting back to back; two leathern curtains, in case of bad weather, protect them from rain or snow.

GRAY, situated on the declivity of a hill, at the foot of which flows the Saone through a beautiful valley, contains a collège, a library, a small theatre, and a fine bridge over the Saone. There are many mills in its vicinity; that which is near the bridge grinds daily 14,000 killograms of wheat. It has a considerable trade in wines, iron, and corn.

There are a number of grottoes, caves, and gulfs, dispersed throughout this department. In one of these were discovered, in 1800, the fossil bones described by Cuvier in his great work.



Fall of the Doute.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF DOUBS.

This is a frontier department (E.); it is composed of an union of the ancient *Comté de Montbéliard* and part of *Franche-Comté*.

SOIL.—This department is divided into three distinct regions, denominated the *Plaine*, the *Moyenne*, and the *Haute Montagne*. The *Plaine* is the most fertile, and produces all kinds of grain, and in some parts the vine is cultivated: *La Moyenne Montagne* rises to about nine hundred feet above the *Plaine*, and yet it is twelve hundred feet beneath the valleys of the *Haute Montagne*. The latter is principally occupied by thick and almost impervious forests, and their summits are covered with snow during six months in the year. Some parts of this region afford excellent pasturage for cattle.

MOUNTAINS. Four chains of the *Jura*, parallel to the chain of *Alpes*, traverse the department. They are all of a calcareous nature, intermingled with alternate beds of clay, schistus, and marl; they present a great number of natural curiosities and points of picturesque beauty and grandeur.

FORESTS.—These consist principally of oaks, pines, beech, and yoke-elm, or hornbeams.

MARSHES or MARSHES.—These are six in number, and that of the *Saône* is of considerable extent; there are also four lakes, which in the dry season sometimes become marshes.

RIVERS.—Ten rivers and two hundred and fifty streamlets water this department; and eight thousand springs have been enumerated within its territory.

The *Jnubs* is the most remarkable; first, on account of its fall, called the *Saut de Doubs*; and secondly, that in consequence of its windings and sinuous course, it twice traverses the department in its greatest length. It is navigable in some parts, and receives the canal from the *Rhône* to the *Rhine*.

MINES.—Upon the *slant* of the *Mont d'Or* there are silver mines; but they are not worked. Iron abounds; and quarries of gypsum, marl, and free-stone are likewise found in it.

MINERAL WATERS.—The sulphurous waters of *Guillon*, near *Baume*, are much frequented, and there are many others of less note. Much salt is also collected in the department.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are at *Besançon* a Lyceum, an Academy of Belles-Lettres, Sciences, and Arts, a Cabinet of Natural History, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Cardinal *Granville*; *Millot*, the historian; *Cuvier*; *La Sœur Mortier*; *Charles Nodier*; *Victor Hugo*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Besançon*. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Besançon*, upon which two pastors are dependent. The anabaptists have likewise a place of worship at *Montbéliard* since the commencement of the eighteenth century. The priests wear no particular costume; they have, in common with their lay brethren, long beards, and clothes without buttons. The women wear black or dark coloured stuffs.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Besançon*; *Baume-les-Dames*; *Montbéliard*; *Pontarlier*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Besançon*. It is comprised in the sixth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

BESANÇON, anciently *Vesontia*, is of Roman extraction; at any rate it was the capital of *la Sequanie*, under the Cæsars. It was at this place that the cross is said to have appeared to Constantine, previous to his public profession of Christianity. His son *Cristus Cæsar* passed his youthful days

at *Besançon*. This unfortunate young man became subsequently a victim to the rage of his step-mother Fausta, and was put to death at Pola in Istria. The *Bisontines*, however, erected a magnificent triumphal arch to his memory, which is now distinguished by the name of *Porte-Noire*. Charlemagne bestowed great largesses upon this town, presented it with two tables, the one of gold, the other of silver, and greatly augmented its privileges. The inhabitants took for their device—*Deo et Casari fideles perpetuè*, and erected to the memory of the emperor a bronze statue, mounted on an eagle, which they placed upon the summit of the present *Place Saint Pierre*. In 1793 this statue was converted into pence. Upon the fountain *des Cannes* was a statue of the Duke of Alva; but this being in stone, escaped the like degradation. While Louis XIV. besieged it, an old capuchin friar very frequently took his station in a sentry-box in the citadel. He bore all the raillery that was levelled against him very patiently; and on being one day asked, "what a capuchin was good for?" he replied by asking them, "if they could distinguish the king on a height in the distance?" On receiving an answer in the affirmative, he said, "Well, I will with this cannon kill the horse under him." He immediately pointed the gun—the horse fell—the king fell with him—to the great astonishment, not only of his attendants, but of his enemies.

Louis, on taking the city, in order to revenge himself on the capuchins, forbade their having confessionals for the next hundred years. As for the town itself, he caused it to be fortified by Vauban, transplanted thither the parliament of *Dole*, established an university, and greatly ornamented the *Porte Taillée*. The fort of *Joux* is one of the most interesting monuments about *Besançon*.

The rock upon which the fort of *Joux* is situated was well known to the Romans, as a post of great military importance. This rock is separated from the mountains which surround it, and which it commands, by the Doubs, that flows at its foot on the one side, and on the other by the road leading from *Besançon*, which separates at this point, and enters Switzerland by two different roads. It formed one of the most important connexions between Gaul and Helvetia. It was no doubt the scene of many a fierce-fought battle; and ancient legends tell of many a deed of hate, revenge, and blood, transacted within the walls of the

frowning castle, that was erected by the lawless freebooters, that took possession of it when the Romans no longer held Gaul in subjection. So early as 1050, the lords of *Joux* were the most powerful *séigneurs* of Burgundy: they possessed several castles and rich villages, for which they did homage to the counts of *Ghalons*. It passed successively into the hands of the Swiss, the Burgundians, and the French. After the conquest of *Franche Comté* by Louis XIV., the fort of *Joux* became a state-prison. Among the illustrious personages of modern times who have been immured in this gloomy and solitary prison, *Mirabeau* and *Toussaint L'Ouverture* are the most conspicuous. The chamber



Fort of Joux, in which Toussaint died.

is still shown which was occupied by the king of the *Moor*s, so the old corporal designates the same hero, who fell a victim to his own credulity, or rather good ... others. He died on the 27th April, 1803. From a state of slavery he became commander-in-chief of the armies of Saint

Domingo. He wrote to *Buonaparte* from Saint Domingo, and addressed him thus:—*Le premier des noirs au premier des blancs*. The fort of *Joux* has undergone many alterations of late years. It contains large magazines, arsenals, and barracks. Here and there the escutcheon of the ancient lords of *Joux* is seen: its field is gold powdered with sable; the crest is a bull's head, and the motto "*du bœuf*."

Modern *Besançon* is one of the most considerable cities of France. Many of the houses are built of brick. The *Doubs*, which divides the city into two parts, almost surrounds the *ville haute* by taking the form of a horse-shoe, the two extremities of which are united by a bridge. It contains ten squares. *Le place Vauban* is occupied by superb barracks. *Saint Pierre* contains the *Hotel-de-Ville*, the palace of justice, and the church of Saint Peter, in which is a celebrated picture of the descent from the cross, by Breton. The cathedral is a magnificent gothic structure. The church of *la Madeleine* is remarkable for the lightness and elegance of its roof, supported by beautiful reed columns; and the organ-loft is constructed of stone, which is supported at its extremities only. The dome of the *Rotunde de la Refuge* is likewise worthy admiration; and these perhaps among the churches are the best. The prefecture, the hospital *St Jacques*, the college royal, the library, and the theatre, complete its objects of interest. There are many fountains in the city, which add greatly to its beauty, while at the same time they are highly beneficial to the health of the inhabitants.

It carries on a brisk trade in wine, cattle, cheese, iron, and cloths: it also contains an immense number of watch-makers.

Long. $3^{\circ} 42' 46''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 14' 12''$. Ninety-four leagues south-east from Paris. Forty-eight posts and three-quarters.

MONTBÉLIARD is a pretty and strong town, seated in a plain at the foot of a rock, just where the *Alleine* joins the *Doubs*. It is defended by a strong castle. It contains five markets, fifteen great streets, six bridges, and three or four thousand inhabitants, nine-tenths of whom are Protestants, who are watch-makers, clothiers, and mechanics. The trade of *Montbéliard* consists in ticking, bonnets, leather, stockings, knives, &c., and its territory consists of vineyards, fields, and forests.

Long. $4^{\circ} 25'$; lat. $47^{\circ} 38'$. One hundred and two leagues south from Paris.

" SAINT-HYPPOLITE is situated on the banks of the Doubs. Its air is exceedingly healthy, and its territory contains many wonders; among these we shall select a few. The *Château de la Roche* is a vast cavern, which traverses a rock in the form of a peak; its utmost extent is about 192 feet; its entrance is 71 feet wide, and its height 154 feet; it diminishes gradually until it becomes only twelve feet and a half wide at its extremity: at this point the roof rises to such an immense height, that it is not possible to throw the slightest gleam of light upon it, however great the number of torches may be. At *Ornans* there is a remarkable grotto, called *Glacière-de-la-Grace-Dieu*. the entrance to this grotto is level with the plain; the descent is by means of rude steps, which extend 132 feet below the level ground, while the vaulted roof mounts 160 feet above the entrance. Several chambers present themselves, but the *glacière* is the third; it is triangular, about 110 feet wide, and the roof rises to 80 feet; from it are suspended many enormous stalactites, here and there mingled with large icicles in the form of pyramids. Towards the centre of the roof they assume a formidable appearance, and were it not that the woods have been much cleared away which cover the external part of this *glacière*, and thereby causing a quicker circulation of air in the caverns, there is little doubt it would eventually become a mass of ice. The source of the *Lone*, the *Puits de la Brème*, called also the *Tamborin*, from the noise produced by its subterraneous waters, the *Fontaine Ronde*, and the *Grotto d'Osselle*, should all be visited by the curious traveller. *La Fontaine Ronde* is near *Pontarlier*; it is composed of two circular basins, the one is placed above the other; they have each their own flow; the upper one first overflows its brink, its waters falling into the one below, which shortly afterwards likewise overflows, when this union of waters produces a large stream; a short time afterwards, about seven minutes, the waters of this capricious fountain cease to flow in the upper basin, the lower one gradually decreases, and they both become perfectly dry for a time, when the same reflux commences. The grotto of *Osselle* contains thirty-six chambers, more or less large, which occupy about a quarter of a league in length; in one of the latter chambers there is a lake, which a cord of 6000 feet has not fathomed. Over this lake a bridge has been thrown. This cave has the property of incrusting any thing left within it

in the short space of nine days. It is curious to see the smoke of the torches remain unmoved so thick in the air. One of these apartments is occupied by a vast colony of bats. At *Chenecy* is another grotto, in which not only every, fantastic form is seen, but exact representations of the productions of the upper world. It is even said that a forest of trees is there to be found, as if it had sunk and been converted into petrifications after its descent. Indeed this part of France seems to abound with the most beautiful, most grand, and most imposing works of nature.

The church of the little village *Morteau*, in the commune of *la Grande Combe*, is an object of much interest: it is simply a large cave, eighty-two feet in extent, which receives a dim light from a fissure that has been cut perpendicularly in the rock. With the exception of this work of man, and the altar, all here is the production of the Divine Architect. A portal has been constructed at the entrance, and there is a small belfry attached to the rock. As the village of *Remonot* is built above the grotto, the inhabitants have constructed a kind of wooden tower, in which there is a staircase, and by this they descend to this subterraneous church or crypta. Of the falls of the *Doubs* notice has been already taken; but it will not be uninteresting to describe a fête which annually takes place just above the *caser*. The inhabitants of *Pontarlier*, and those of *Neufchâtel*, in Switzerland, assemble once a-year, to the number of six thousand persons, to enjoy themselves in the beautiful valley through which the *Doubs* rushes previous to its fall. A number of boats gaily ornamented glide along the stream, forming two flotillas, to the sound of music, which the adjacent rocks re-echo. The two boats, containing the magistrates of the two towns, having met, the authorities compliment and welcome each other, to the sound of small shot. Their example is followed by the people, and every kind of gaiety then commences, both on the shore and the river.

This river is immortalized by the loss of two lovers, who having entered a small boat, were so taken up with the beauty of the scenery, or the pleasure they derived from their mutual society, that they forgot to turn their frail vessel when they arrived at the canal, and the force of the current drew it within its vortex, and dashing it against the foot of the rocks, they were soon lost.

And as if this melancholy catastrophe had somewhat attractive in it, a young girl shortly afterwards, imitating the heroine of antiquity, Sappho, threw herself from the summit of the rock, and plunged into one of the basins which precedes the cascade. The young girls of this neighbourhood are excellent *boatwomen*: it is not unusual for the curious traveller to meet a little boat *manned* by a gay conductor, in her holiday dress, rowing manfully in some parts of the still stream, which it requires a considerable degree of strength to perform.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF JURA.

This is a frontier department (E.) composed of a part of *Franche Comté*.

SOIL.—The soil is not very productive. In the mountains the surface is stony; and in the valleys, clay is the predominant covering to its rocky bed.

MOUNTAINS.—Branches of the *Jura* traverse this department. The eastern declivities afford good pasture lands.

FORESTS.—These are numerous, and consist chiefly of fir; although forest-trees of another description are found in the more southern regions.

RIVERS.—This department is watered by the *Doubs*, the *Louvre*, and the *Ain*.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—Iron, copper, lead, and pit-coal are found in the mountains. It also possesses quarries of marble, jasper, and alabaster, and that valuable sand used in the manufacture of glass. In the forest of *Chaux* there are extensive salt works, and there are no less than eight hot springs; the temperature of the hottest is 52.50 degrees. There is also a ferruginous spring, the temperature of which is 22.25. The waters of *Luxeuil* are principally employed in nervous and rheumatic affections, as baths, pumping baths, and as a beverage also. There are several salt-springs, but these are neglected; but at *Gouhénans* there is a very valuable layer of salt, which has been discovered under a bed of coal.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Attinet*, a painter; Jesuit *Gerard*; *Abbé Olivet*; *Saint-Claude*; *Abbé Guyon Christin*; *Ronet*; and *Rosset*, of modern times.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Saint-Claude*.

It depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Besançon*, and is comprised in the sixth military division.

This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz.:—*Lons-le-Saulnier*, *Dole*, and *Saint-Claude*.

• CHIEF TOWNS.

LONS-LE-SAULNIER, on the river *Solvan*, is seated in a basin, surrounded on all sides by mountains twelve hundred feet high: yet the country around is very agreeable, and produces excellent white wine, game, and poultry. It is the *entrepôt* of trade between *Lyon* and *Franche Comté*. Its salt-springs, and the buildings connected with them, are interesting. The waters of the three salt-springs are raised by an ingenious piece of mechanism to the height of thirty feet, and are then directed three different courses: they are filtered through a number of closely interwoven thorn-bushes, from which they pass into the cauldrons, where they are converted into solid salt. There is also belonging to it a mine of fossil wood.

Long. $3^{\circ} 15'$; lat. $46^{\circ} 6'$.

DOLE-LA-DOLENTE derives its name from the following circumstance:—the *Dolois* were in former times renowned for their gallantry in war, and at the siege of their town in 1479, the troops of Louis XI., under the command of *Georges de la Tremouille*, were bravely repulsed; but in the following year the Dolesians were surprised by *Charles d'Amboise*, and in despair they assembled themselves in the great square, where they fought desperately until they were all killed. *Dole* has stood many sieges, and was strongly fortified by the emperor Charles V., and was at last taken by stratagem by the *Chevalier de Grammont*, who persuaded the inhabitants to submit to Louis XIV., who destroyed the fortifications of the city.

Dole was once the capital of *Franche Comté*, the dwelling of the dukes of Burgundy, the seat of great authorities. It had its parliament, its treasury, its mint, its university, and it was then called *Dole-la-joyeuse*.

The emperor Barbarossa and his queen *Beatrix* delighted much in this town, and he erected a stately palace within its walls; not a vestige of which remains; a beautiful *parterre*

now occupies its site. Such is the fate of all sublunary things. But why should *Dole-la-dolente* call forth such serious thoughts? Look at the doubtful remains of Babylon the mighty!—of Persepolis, the magnificent!—of Palmyra, rising from the sandy desert, like a splendid vision!—of Heliopolis!—Thebes, with its hundred gates!—Look at modern Athens! Rome! Italy itself!—and see how fragile is all human grandeur! And where are the countless multitudes of sentient beings who erected these splendid cities, who founded these mighty empires? Where the sage legislators who watched day and night over their interests?—the heroes who braved all danger for their preservation?—the tyrants who enslaved them?—and the slaves who crouched ignobly at their footstools and trembled at their frown? They are all mingled with their native dust!—they are all pent up in the dark chambers of the grave, until

“ The mighty trump that wakes the dead ”

shall rouse them from their sleep of death to sleep no more!

But to return to *Dole-la-dolente*, which gave rise to this digression. There are two delightful walks in its neighbourhood, the *Paguer* and *le cours Saint-Maxis*: the latter, which is a terrace above the Doubs, presents a magnificent picture. To the west may be seen the caput of the Rhine, which joins the Doubs a little south of the town, round which extends the valley called *Val d'Amour*, from its beauty; a little to the east rises the majestic forest of *Chaux*; to the south-east, in the distance, is the town of *Salins*; then comes the chain of *Jura*, behind which the *Alpes* display their frozen summits. *Dole* is still a large city, and some of its streets are fine; yet it contains little to arrest the traveller's notice. The church of *Notre-Dame* is only remarkable for its gothic style of architecture. The college and the two hospitals are large, and remarkably well arranged, particularly the latter. A fountain, surmounted by the statue of a child, in white marble, which is considered a *chef-d'œuvre*, closes the account of *Dole* and its objects of curiosity. Yet the fate of the artist, whose skill produced, not only this figure, but a bust of *Voltaire*, now in the *Théâtre Français*, must not pass unnoticed. Either from the neglect his merits ill deserved, or his own imprudence, he was reduced to such a state of poverty that he died in one of the hospitals of his native city.

On the road between *Dole* and *Lons-le-Saulnier* there are many

records of the antiquity of several places that appear right and left. *Sainte-Ylie* derives its name from *Ylie*, a deity worshipped in other places under the names of Juno, Diana, and Minerva; as the peculiar protector of women. Near this village a bronze bust of Diana was found, which delivered the ancient oracles of the place. *Parthey*, not far distant, owes its name to *Partha*; and the little stream of *Bleine*, which flows in its environs, was consecrated to the Apollo of the Gauls, *Belenus*. In the *Gujan*, antiquarians have discovered *Gurges Jana*, (*source de Diane*). All antiquarians are necessarily great etymologists. Diana was, however, much revered in this part of Gaul; and as it is ascertained that sacrifices were offered to this goddess on the banks of this fountain, it is possible that *Gujan* may be a corruption of *Gurges Jana*; but it is a matter of no importance, and as

That which we call a rose,
By any other name would smell as sweet,

so by whatever name thou art called, sweet fountain, hail to thy beauties, which one of thy native poets has invoked in all the spirit of poesy.

Ces tranquilles bosquets, cette ombre, ce silence,
Ces flots qu'un frais zephyr caresse mollement,
De cet humble ruisseau la paisible indolence,
Tout inspire un poète et tout charme un amant.
Que mon cœur est ému ! que mon âme est saisie !
O source de *Gujan*, témoin de mes transports !
Horace eût préféré ton onde à Blandusie,
Et le sang des chevreux eût coulé sur tes bords.
Ce n'est point aujourd'hui du sang que tu demandes !
J'apporte aux dieux plus doux—plus douces offrandes,
Des fruits, du lait, des fleurs, de vin délicieux,
Et des vers aussi purs que tes flots gracieux.

DUSILLET.

Morlay, seated on its banks, was the birth-place of the unfortunate *Jacques de Molay*, last grand-master of the Templars.

The village of *Arbois* is celebrated for its white wines, its flowers, and its vegetables.

SALINS is built between two mountains, crowned by two forts, which defend it. The river *Furieuse*, that passes through it, is what its name bespeaks, a rapid stream. Two small streams in this neighbourhood derive their source from two adjacent moun-

tains; the one, called *Lison*, issues from the base of a rock which has three openings, and proceeds gently for a short time, until it precipitates itself down the rugged rocks, covering them with foam. *Le Serrasin* joins the *Lison* at a short distance, after issuing from a spacious vault, in which is a large lake that acts as a reservoir to the stream.

Near to this town is a large stone, called *Pierre-Lithe*, about nine feet high, and slightly inclined. This stone was formerly consecrated to Venus. *Les Rochers de Sirod* consist of an assemblage of irregular pieces of single rock, sixty feet high, which at a distance have the appearance of colossal statues. This department abounds in wonders, which it is impossible to describe, every town and village having some object of nature to draw the traveller from his route.

At *Chatagnay* there is a natural *jet-d'eau* issuing from the bottom of a hill, 720 feet high; in the winter it throws itself from its basin and rises twelve feet, from which it falls into its stony bed, making a prodigious noise; but in the summer, instead of a current of water, there is only a strong current of air. Near *Soisia* is a semicircular valley, surrounded by lofty mountains, but of a regular form; they contain several grottoes. Between *Orgelet* and *Clairvaux-les-Vaux-d'Ain*, are to be seen the natural fortifications, which at a very short distance appear like the bastions, faces, curtains, and even tiers of batteries of a well-fortified town. The rock which forms them rises to about 690 feet, at the foot of which is a sloping forest, that keeps up the illusion by its resemblance, at a distant view, to the green parapet of a rampart. The *Gorge-de-la-Tour-du-Meix* presents an object of a very different description, for it appears like a road cut smoothly through a solid rock, winding and turning, and presenting nothing to the eye but its own smooth surface, and the sky, above the head of the traveller. This rock rises perpendicularly on each side the road to the height of 150 feet. On emerging from this gorge, a lovely scene bursts upon the view, and the traveller is all at once transported from Tartarus to the fields of Elysium. The *Ain* flows through the valley; beyond which, thickly-wooded heights rise one above the other, forming a beautiful outline to the picture.

SAINT CEHAUDE is a pretty town: its church of *Saint Pierre*. and its walk of *Ruel* are very passable. In the public library is a

lible, at least nine hundred years old. The streets are clean and regular. The town having had the misfortune to be burnt, the first consul, Buonaparte, caused it to be rebuilt in stone. During, however, this short interruption to the labours of its industrious inhabitants, many of them sought refuge in *Nantua*, carrying thither their trades and arts; but *Saint Claude* has recovered its celebrity in works of ivory, gold, tortoise-shell, horn, and box, which assume every form under the tasteful hands of the *Claudesians*. Toys also, of every description, occupy the people of this part of the country for many miles round.

At the village of *Rousses* the inhabitants make much of that cheese called *Gruyère de Comté*. An observation has been made upon the church, which is not a little nice and curious. The roof is so constructed, that the drops of water which fall from it are parted for ever: those which fall from the eastern side are conveyed into the lake of *Rousses*, and from thence to the northern ocean by the Rhine; those that fall on the western side fall into the *Bienne*, and are conveyed to the Mediterranean by the Rhone. It is near *Rousses* that the road commences leading to the summit of the *Dole*, which rises 5600 feet above the level of the sea, and passes for the highest in the chain of mount *Jura*. Having passed through a forest of pine, which terminates about a quarter of a league below its crest, the weary traveller is speechless with surprise and delight at the prospect before him. Nearly a hundred leagues of the chain of Alps, with *Mont Blanc* towering proudly in the clouds, are at one view visible: the beautiful *Pays-de-Vaud* is at his feet; beyond that, lake *Leman*, with its azure waters, extending as far as *Geneva*. A part of *Switzerland* and its lakes are likewise visible. On the side of France, *Franche Comté*, *La Bresse*, and *Bourgogne*, are stretched in one wide panoramic view; and to those who are acquainted with the localities, their towns, roads, and points of interest may be discovered and followed.

SARNPANS.—In the quarries of red marble which are near this town, and belong to it, there are found several species of dendrites, upon which the figures of men, animals, plants, and even armorial bearings, are visible.

The department of *Jura* is, indeed, one of the most picturesque in France, and well worthy the attention of those who have a

taste for the romantic beauties of nature, and the means of gratifying that taste.

Some of the customs of this part of France are singular and interesting; none more so than the betrothing and marriages of its blithe inhabitants, of which the following serves as a description. When a bachelor intends to marry, one of his friends, under the burlesque name of *Trouille Bondon*, makes a visit to the parents of the girl of whom he is enamoured: after having eulogized his friend, he receives in return an enumeration of the virtues and accomplishments of the lady. If the match appear at all eligible, the parents of either party meet to talk the affair over, and the offer is then made in form. Towards the end of the evening repast, the young man, who is seated by the side of his lover, presents her on a plate or in a glass, a rouleau either of gold or silver, according to his pecuniary means. If she accept his offer, she puts *les arrhes* (the pledge) in her pocket; from this moment she is betrothed, and she cannot break her engagement without offering to the young man double the sum she has received from him. On the eve of the publication of the bans, the future bride and bridegroom present sugar-plums and wafers to their relations and friends; this is called *donner les fiançailles*. The day on which the contract is signed, the *fiancée* invites her young female friends, who put on masks, and otherwise disguise themselves, and then retire to a distant apartment. The future husband, with his brothers and comrades, arrive, knock at the door, and demand a sheep they have lost: at first they are refused admission, but they insist on entering, and commence a diligent search throughout the house, until they arrive at the chamber in which the young girls are hidden. A young man then presents himself, and assures the intruders that he has no *stray sheep* among his flock, and in proof of this assertion he makes each young girl pass before the lover, who becomes the laughing-stock of his companions unless he recognizes his intended by her dancing. The wedding-dress is then brought, when some one of the company makes a long oration on the duties of the marriage state; after which the bride is presented with a piece of black bread, and then with cake and wine, which are symbolical of the pains and pleasures of her future life. The women take a slight repast, and the men sit up all

night drinking and singing. On the following day the marriage is celebrated in the parish of the girl, on which occasion the head of the bride is ornamented with a wreath of myrtle in flower: they are accompanied to church by musical instruments and the noise of fire-arms.

After the ceremony the father of the bridegroom conducts the bride to her home. If the two families do not belong to the same village, all the moveables and wedding apparel of the bride are placed in a cart drawn by oxen, in which the young girls place themselves, and spin as they go along. If the peasant girl be a favourite, the young people of the village impede her departure by placing obstacles in the road, and at their final separation they present her with a nosegay. The house of the young man is closed on her arrival; the mother of the bridegroom appears at the window, and throws out handfuls of wheat, beans, peas, &c. as symbols of the prosperity she wishes to befall them. Soon after this the door opens, and the mother advancing to the threshold, presents her daughter-in-law with a glass of wine and a piece of cake, which she shares with her husband. She is then introduced into the house, where, taking up a broom that is lying at her feet, she begins to sweep the apartment. The festivities of the day are concluded by a supper, at which the guests are masked; this is called *aller à la poule*; and after paying their respects to the newly-married couple, and wishing them every possible happiness, they commence the merry dance, which, intermingled with songs and joyous laughter, continues until the lark commences his matin song, and the morning star begins to pale his ineffectual light."

SECTION XXIV.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF LORRAINE.

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF MEUSE, MOSELLE, MEURTHE,
AND VOSGES.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF MEUSE.

THIS is a frontier department. (N. E.) consisting of a portion of *Lorraine*.

SOIL.—The soil produces excellent pasturage. The face of the country is pleasing from its variety, being composed of mountains, hills, and plains. The vine is cultivated with much success, and is particularly useful likewise in this department, where there are many forges.

FORESTS.—The principal of these is that of *Marguienne*. Its woods are likewise very beautiful.

RIVERS.—It is traversed from north to south by the *Meuse*. The *Ornan* crosses the southern extreme point.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Vosges*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Dgm Calmet*; *De Lisle*, geographer; *Chevert*; *Abbé Avocat*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. *Meuse* is the see of a bishop, dependent on the archbishop of *Besançon*. There are a few Protestants and Jews.

This department is divided into four arrondissements, viz.:—*Bar-le-Duc*, *Vardun*, *Montmedy*, *Commercy*.

CITY-TOWNS.

BAR-LE DUC, or BAR-SUR-ARNAIN, is situated on the river *Arnain*. Its name of *Bar*, originally *Barrum*, was given to it, and many other towns, because they served as a limit to small states. *Bar-le-Duc* owes its existence to a castle erected on a mountain to protect *Lorraine* from the incursions of the *Champeinois*. The lower town, which is at the foot of this castle, contains nothing of interest but the church of *Saint Maxime*. In the upper town there is little worthy of being recorded. The *Hotel de Ville*, the markets, the old *Palais de Justice*, and the churches of *Saint Cernilles* and of *St. Peter*, are the only edifices that rise

above mediocrity. The latter is ancient, and contains a fine piece of sculpture, representing a corpse devoured by worms. It is the work of a peasant of *Dagonville*, a village in this department: he was called *Richier*. It is said, that *Michael Angelo* having discovered this genius, took him to Rome, where he greatly distinguished himself.

Bar-le-Duc was the capital of a small territory situated on either side of the *Meuse*, between *Champagne* and *Lorraine*.

Its wines are excellent, and its sweetmeats are in much estimation. The raspberry, strawberry, and gooseberry are cultivated with much care, for the purpose of preserving them. It has two fine walks, the *Pagnis*, and that of the *Saules*. There are near it some ferruginous mineral waters, and a few fossils may likewise be found by the patient geologist.

Long. $2^{\circ} 50'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 14'$. Sixty-two leagues east from Paris. Fifty-one posts and a half.

Saint Mihiel manufactures excellent table linen, and very fine lace, brandies, and superior paper.

Varennes is in this department: it will be recognised as the town where the unfortunate *Louis XVI.* was discovered:

VERDUN is a strong, well-fortified town, upon the *Meuse*, which divides it in two parts. Its fortifications are the work of *Vauban* and *De Ville*. The ancient bishops of *Verdun* were sovereign princes; but fearing the ambition of the dukes of *Lorraine* and *Bourgogne*, they placed themselves under the protection of *Philippe de Valois*, paying an annual rent of eight hundred francs, until the time of *Louis XIV.* The church of *Notre Dame de Sainte Vanne* possesses an admirable altar-piece; and this is the only monument to be found in *Verdun*. Some of its walks are agreeable. In 1727, *Verdun* was nearly destroyed by the explosion of a powder magazine. In 1755, it caught fire in a thunder-storm. The conflagration was dreadful: three of the church bells were melted; one of these weighed above seven tons, and the other two, nearly three tons each. It is at present a very flourishing town. Its environs furnish good marble and aniseed. One of its principal articles of trade are sugar-plums; and its dried sweetmeats are in great request at Paris, as well as its liqueurs.

Long. $3^{\circ} 2' 42''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 3' 24''$. Sixty-one leagues east from Paris.

It was at this place that Buonaparte confined all the English who were in France from the year 1804 to 1814.

VAUCOULEURS, though a small village, must not be forgotten, because the Maid of Orleans frequently attended her sheep at this place; it is at no great distance from *Donnremy*; she is sometimes called *La Bergère de Vaucouleurs*. The country is here very beautiful, and rich in pasture lands.

Void is on the *Meholle*, which produces excellent trout and crabs. The cream cheeses of this little town are one of the chief articles of its support. Its old castle is very ancient; in the time of Charlemagne it was a palace; it has been often besieged, but never taken.

2. DEPARTMENT OF MOSELLE.

This is a frontier department in the N. E.; it was formerly known as the *Pays des trois Evêchés*.

SOIL.—Several chains of hills, the summits of which are sometimes pointed, barren, and rugged, particularly those which may be termed ramifications of the *Vosges*. Some of these are covered with forests, others with briars and bloom. In some parts the soil is clayey, or silicious. The best land is that which has been converted into meadow and arable lands from the *étangs*, or ponds. The fallow, or uncultivated lands, belong to the public.

FORESTS.—The forests are extensive, and consist principally of ash; but they are no longer the thick, "impervious forest," which in former times afforded a barrier to the inroads of the Roman armies. In many parts they have been so thinned, that the remaining trees are frequently blown down by the winds, which are violent at all times, and frequently very cold.

RIVERS.—The *Moselle* and the *Sarre* are alone navigable. The *Valogné* contains the *Mitulus Margaritifus* of Linnæus, a bivalve shell of the muscle tribe, which contains pearls of a fine water, and not unfrequently of a tolerable size.

MARSHES.—There are some marshes in the neighbourhood of *Bitche*; these produce a variety of reeds.

MINES.—Several iron-mines are worked, and the department contains some veins of lead and copper, which were formerly

productive; quarries of free-stone, of lumachello, clay, and gypsum, &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—Near *Metz* are the ferruginous waters of *Bonne Fontaine*, excellent for diseases of the stomach; and near the bridge of *St. Julien les Metz* is a salt spring, which a tanner employs in his operations of tanning leather. The salt springs of *Saltz Bronn* were worked in the twelfth century, and were then exceedingly productive: they were for many years dormant, but are again cultivated, and produce excellent salt.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—At *Metz* there are a Royal Academy of Letters, Sciences, Arts, and Agriculture, a Cabinet of Natural History, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Abraham Fabert*, marshal of France; *Bouchoté*; *Custines*; *Mertin de Thionville*, member of the convention; marshal *Ney*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Metz*. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Metz*. The Jews of *Moselle* possess a consistorial synagogue, composed of a grand rabbin and four lay members. There is also at *Metz* a school for nine pupils, who are brought up at the expense of the government in the Israelitish faith.

This department is divided into four arrondissements, viz.:—*Briey*, *Thionville*, *Metz*, *Sarguemines*.

It depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Metz*. It is comprised in the third military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

METZ, now called *la porte de France*, has for centuries been a town of considerable importance. In the time of the Romans it was known as *Diodorum*, when the emperors made it frequently their place of residence, and built in it a palace, which subsequently was inhabited by the kings of *Austrasia*. A magnificent amphitheatre and a temple to Jupiter formerly decorated this city; but neither their beauty nor their strength could preserve them from the ravages of time. Now and then some slight traces of the proud palaces of former times are discovered, but, like the heads that planned, and the hands that constructed these mighty fabrics, they are confounded with the dust.

Metz is situated on the gentle slope of a hill, at the confluence

of the *Moselle* and the *Seille*; it is defended by a citadel, and is surrounded by ramparts. Its fortifications are very ancient, but not very regular: they were, however, sufficiently strong to compel the emperor Charles V. to raise the siege. *La Place*, on which stands the theatre, is exceedingly pretty; the river flows on one side of it, and on the other there is a terrace supported by arcades. The *Place d'Armes*, the *Hôtel de Ville*, and some trophies in marble, contribute to its embellishment, as well as a shady walk, in which the trees exclude the rays of the sun. The cathedral, which was erected previous to the ninth century, is a remarkable gothic building: it is 363 feet long, and 73 wide, and the tower is 348 feet high. The baptismal font is composed of a porphyritic vessel, which was taken from one of the baths erected by the Romans. These baths must have been very superb, from the relics that have been extracted from them, particularly the marble columnus that have been conveyed to the bishop's palace.

The baths, now called *Fossé au Serpens*, were supplied with water by an aqueduct of 200 arches, brought from the village of *Gorce*. Of so much magnificence there now remain a few arches at *Jouy aux Arches*. The country people call it *Pont au Diable*, believing that it was bewitched, and consequently could not be finished.

By means of a double dyke, 950 feet long, and 89 wide, the waters of the *Seille* have been conveyed into the city. It is so contrived that the waters may overflow their middle bank and form one large sheet of water.

Metz is one of the principal habitations of the Jews in France. So early as the seventh century they were numerous in this town; in 1531 they were driven from it; in 1365 they returned; in 1562 they were again disturbed. In 1567 they obtained permission to take up that abode, which had become their country. They then consisted of four families, with an interdiction to form any alliance with strangers. They multiplied exceedingly, and the magistrates resumed their persecution; when Henry IV. granted them an open protection, by letters patent, dated 24th March, 1603. These privileges were confirmed in 1718 and 1777. These four families in the course of two centuries increased to the number of 550. In 1801 the number of Jewish families amounted to 503.

The territory of *Metz* produces wheat, barley, oats, hemp, flax, vinegar. There are likewise many fine nurseries and salt marshes. It carries on a brisk trade in brandies, groceries, drugs, draperies, silks, jewellery, china, gauzes, artificial flowers, turnery in wood and ivory, &c.

Long. $3^{\circ} 54' 12''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 7' 5''$. Seventy-six leagues east from Paris. Thirty-nine posts and a half.

THIONVILLE is a very strongly fortified city on the left bank of the *Moselle*. It is also very ancient, for in the time of Charlemagne it was the third city of the empire. It has a few manufactures of hats, pottery, and awls. The country between it and *Meziers* is agreeably diversified with hills and woods.

Long. $3^{\circ} 47'$; lat. $49^{\circ} 21'$. Eighty-three leagues north-east from Paris.

There is, at the small village of *Bettange*, a remarkable elm, fourteen feet in diameter on one side, and eight on the other: it is hollow, but contains several wooden partitions, between which a person may pass. Tradition traces this tree so far back as the time of the Druids.

It was at *Marhorge* that the Roman general *Verus*, one of the governors of the Gauls, had projected a canal to join the *Moselle* to the *Saone*, which would have opened a communication between the Mediterranean and the German ocean; but he was dissuaded from it by another general, *Ælius Gracilis*, under the pretext that *Domitius Nero*, always jealous and suspicious, might imagine that *Verus* wished to conciliate the Gauls, by employing the legions that were not under his administration, and eventually persuade them to rise in his favour. *Vauban*, in the time of Louis XIV., proposed this project to that prince, but was unable to carry it into effect.

At *Sanguemines* and its neighbourhood are manufactured an incredible quantity of paper snuff-boxes: it also possesses a pottery à l'Anglaise.

Ritche is renowned for two sieges, the one by Louis XIV., who took it, and the other by the Russians in 1793; when the night being so dark that the soldiers could not see their enemies, a man set fire to his house, calling out to the soldiers, "It will serve you as a torch to discover your enemies."

3.—DEPARTMENT OF MEURTHE.

Meurthe is an inland department (N. E.), formed of a part of the ancient duchies of *Lorraine* and of *Lar*.

RIVERS.—The *Moselle*, which joins the *Rhin* at *Coblentz*; and the *Meurthe*, which falls into the *Moselle*.

CANAL.—There is the canal of *Salines de Dieuze*, and another is projected between the *Seine* and the *Rhin*. There are also several ponds, which are exceedingly productive.

FORESTS.—One-third of this department consists of forests; those of *Dabo* and *Saint Quirin* are the most extensive.

ROADS.—Eight royal and twelve departmental roads traverse this department.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are a Royal Society of Letters and the Arts, at *Nancy*, one of Agriculture, a Museum, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Pope *Leo IX.*; the emperor *Leopold*; the minister *Choiseul*; *Guise le Balafre*; *Bassompierre*; *Gouvion Saint Cyr*; *Draught*, *Mareschals Gerard* et *Mouton*; generals *Gouvion*, *Klein*, &c. &c.; admiral *Rigny*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic; it forms part of the diocese of *Nancy*. The Protestant churches of this department depend upon the consistorial church of *Metz*. The Jews also possess a consistorial synagogue, composed of a rabbi and four lay members.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Nancy*, *Château-Salins*, *Lunéville*, *Sarrebouurg*, *Toul*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Nancy*. It is comprised in the fourth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

The town of *Nancy* is not very ancient. In the eleventh century, *Mathieu I.*, duke of *Lorraine*, then inhabited the castle, which he greatly enlarged.

René II. increased its fortifications; his successors made it their capital. In the fifteenth century *Leopold* built it entirely again, and ornamented it with many edifices. *Charles the Bold*, last duke of *Bourgogne*, took possession of it in 1475. The following year *René* retook it; but in 1477 *Charles* again besieged it, and lost his life before its walls. His body was carried to *Nancy*, where it was embalmed and laid in state. *René*, clad in

deep mourning, wearing a golden beard reaching to his waist, in sign of his victory, went to look at the body before it was buried. In 1587, *Nancy* was greatly enlarged, and the city surrounded by walls. Louis XIII. got possession of it, and confined in its castle Francis duke of *Lorraine* and his wife, until he could convey them to *Paris*; but the Count de *Gournay*, in concert with a man called *Beaulieu*, contrived to give them liberty by the following stratagem:—the princess, dressed in the habit of a page, bearing a flambeau, marched out before the Count, who abused and ill-treated her in order to deceive the sentinels: he conducted her in this disguise to *Beaulieu*, where her husband waited for her, being also disguised. The Duke of *Lorraine* and his wife quitted *Nancy* the next day, dressed as peasants, bearing large bundles on their backs. In this singular dress they gained the gate of *Notre Dame*; a league from the town they met *Beaulieu's* carriage, which took them to *Besunçon*.

Nancy is built on the side of a hill, at the foot of which flows the *Meurthe*. It is divided into the old and new town. The old town is by no means well arranged, though it has been lately improved. The new town is very fine; the streets are straight, and have *trottoirs* on each side for passengers; the houses are well and regularly built, and the four principal streets corresponding with the four city gates, (which may be called triumphal arches,) terminate in a beautiful square, *Place Royale*, surrounded by iron pallisades. The most magnificent edifices surround this square; among these the ancient *Hôtel de l'Université*, the mint, the theatre, and the *Hôtel de Ville*, are conspicuous. At the four corners are four fountains. It is to the taste of Stanislaus, the unfortunate king of Poland, but the happy duke of *Lorraine*, that *Nancy* is indebted for the arrangement of the new town, the cathedral, and the church of the *Minimes*, of which he laid the first stone in 1723, and where, nine years afterwards, he deposited the remains of his beloved wife. Her tomb is thirty feet high and eighteen wide: it is the *chef-d'œuvre* of the sculptor Adam the younger. He also founded a rich library, and established an academy of the sciences and belles-lettres. The church of the Cordeliers, which is in the old town, was founded by René II., duke of *Lorraine*, after his victory over Charles the Bold, duke of *Bourgogne*. René had caused a vault to be constructed

under the *Chapelle Royale*, in which the princes of *Lorraine* and *Bar* were buried. During the reign of anarchy this sacred retreat was violated, the sarcophaguses broken, and the inscriptions mutilated; but the emperor of Austria obtained permission of the French government to replace the tombs and monuments of his family. The barracks of this town are very fine. With regard to the productions of *Nancy*, they are numerous: draperies of every description, tapestry, bonnets, gunpowder, dyes, soap and candles; and the *bon-vivant* may here gratify his taste with its wines, liqueurs, and apricots, (originally brought from Asia by the dukes of *Lorraine*, during the crusades); while the ladies may purchase the finest embroidery and gloves. Its environs produce slate, marble, and mineral waters, iron, alum, and grain.

Long. $3^{\circ} 50' 17''$; Lat. $48^{\circ} 41' 28''$. Eighty-three leagues from Paris. Forty-two posts by *Bar-sur-Ornain*; forty-two posts and three-quarters by *Brienne*.

There are several small towns in its neighbourhood, which shall be briefly passed over. *Vezelize*, to the south, is celebrated for its cotton manufactories and its *siamoises*; *Haroué*, for its wines and fruits; *Bozon*, for its merino sheep; *St. Nicholas*, to the east, for its beautiful church, built in the fifteenth century, and the relics of that saint which it possesses; *Rosières-aux-Salines*, for its salt-springs and its stud of horses; *Pont-à-Mousson*, to the north, that derives its name from its bridge, which formerly communicated with an old fortress situated on the declivity of the mountain *Mousson*; *Colombey-aux-belles-femmes*, which a modern traveller says should be rather named *Colombey-aux-belles-tartes*, for its women have no pretensions to the epithet *belles*; but the place is celebrated for the manufacture of poppy-tarts, which are in high repute at the neighbouring fairs, and poppies are cultivated largely in the fur-rows of the corn-fields for this purpose. *Battigny* sends an immense number of little copper crucifixes to Paris; and from other parts of *Lorraine*, *eau-de-Cologne* and famous hams.

Toul, seated in a fine plain and surrounded by mountains, is the ancient *Tallum* of the Romans. Its more ancient name was *Leuci*, whose inhabitants were renowned for their skill in archery. When the Franks penetrated Gaul, *Toul* was one of the first towns they seized, and it was one of the first that embraced

Christianity. Its potteries, wines, brandies, and cotton-spinning are much admired and very profitable. It has a very fine cathedral, an episcopal palace, barracks, and an arsenal.

Long. $3^{\circ} 33' 18''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 40' 32''$. Seventy-seven leagues south-east from Paris.

LUXEVILLE is in the middle of a plain, on the rivers *Vezère* and the *Meurthe*: its ancient name was *Lunarisvilla*. It was formerly a rendezvous for the chase, the neighbouring forest of *Moncel* producing ample sport for that amusement. There is now a chapel on the spot where formerly stood a temple to Diana, the goddess of the chase. *Lunville* was formerly the capital of a county, but Duke Mathieu I. of *Lorraine* joined it to his duchy: one of his descendants greatly ornamented it, and erected a fine chateau, after the plan of *Roiland*. Its chapel is a perfect model of that at *Versailles*. A *salon*, built by Stanislaus, is universally admired. From it is seen a beautiful cascade. Stanislaus also erected the church of *Saint Jacques*, with its elegant towers; and he drained a marsh, and converted it into a garden, which he adorned with groves and statues. Near the castle is a magnificent *Champ-de-Mars*. The hospital is a fine building, and its riding school, which is so large as to admit of the manoeuvres of 200 cavalry, is covered in with a roof of chestnut wood. In *La-Place-Neuve* there is a fountain which throws upright jets-d'eau. The tomb of the *Marquise-du-Châtelet* has been immortalised by Voltaire —

L'Univers a perdu la sublime Emilie,
Elle aimait les plaisirs, les arts, la vérité;
Les Dieux en lui donnant leur ame, et leur génie,
N'avaient gardé pour eux que l'immortalité.

The seal of the poet is impressed upon it likewise. It was at *Lunéville* that the treaty between France and Austria was signed in 1801. It has some few manufactories of pottery, which are very renowned, cotton, stockings, &c.

Long. $4^{\circ} 10' 6''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 35' 33''$. Twenty-nine leagues east of Paris.

There are several very fine glass manufactories in this neighbourhood, and, strange to say, the first was established by some *Bohémiens*, who were encouraged to settle in this part of the country by one of the dukes of *Lorraine*.

At *Sarrilbourg*, which is so dirty a town, that a native of France has proposed that the double *r* should be supplanted by an *l*, those beautiful models in composition are made, which are so much admired, and particularly in Paris. There are many large ponds in this department which abound in fish, and produce an annual revenue of 600,000 livres. In the pond of *Lindre* stands the village of *Tarquinpôl*, which has no communication with the land but at low water. The Romans fortified this island, and there are still some traces of its former magnificence. In modern times it was again fortified, but at present there are only the remains of the castle to testify its former importance. There are also many salt springs which enrich the inhabitants of *La Meurthe*, as well as a mine of salt near *Vic*.

4.—DEPARTMENT OF VOSGES.

This is an inland department (N.E.) formed of a part of *Lorraine*.

SOIL.—The soil in the plains is composed of a calcareous earth, occasionally intermingled with clay; in the mountainous parts it consists chiefly of a light earth and sand, both equally unproductive and insufficient for the support of the inhabitants.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Vosges* traverse the department in every direction; their height is inconsiderable: unlike the solitude, the wild majesty and magnificence of the Alps and Pyrenees, they present on every side scenes of the richest pastoral beauty, intermingled with towns and villages, forests, lakes, cascades, grottos, and occasionally precipices and the higher features of the sublime in landscape.

RIVERS.—The rivers of this department are numerous: they are the *Moselle*, the *Meurthe*, *Saône*, *Plaine*, *Brusché*, *Vaire*, *Madon*, *Mouzon*, and the *Concy*, but they are not navigable.

ROADS.—Six royal, and eighteen departmental roads traverse this department.

MINES.—Iron, copper, lead, pit-coal abound in this department: it also contains quarries of marble, granite, mill-stones, slate, &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are mineral waters at *Plombières*, *Bussang*, *Cotrexeville*, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Joan d'Arc*, the poet *Gilbert Peller d'Epinal*, *Albert Montémort*, translator of Sir Walter Scott's works, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Saint Dié*. The protestants have an oratory at *Saint Dié* attached to the consistorial church at *Mulhausen*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz: *Epinal*, *Neuf Château*, *Mirecourt*, *Saint Dié*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Nancy*; it is comprised in the third military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.*

EPINAL, seated on the *Moselle*, was an important town before the invention of artillery, for it defended a very important pass into France, and made several vain endeavours to emancipate itself and become a free city. In 1444 France received it as a voluntary gift from the inhabitants: in 1465 it was reunited to *Lorraine*, and afterwards dismantled. Its only object of attraction in these days, is a most beautiful flower garden belonging to *M. Doublat*, who has carried the culture of *Flora's* favourites to the highest degree of perfection. *Mars* formerly held more imposing possession of this very spot of earth—upon it rose a fortress. The *Vosgiens* are simple in their habits and customs, gay and lively in their dispositions, and contented with their lot. They have two amusements, which are peculiar to themselves, the one called *Les brandons*, the other *Champs-Golot*. The latter is thus celebrated; the children of the town parade about the streets, bearing planks upon which they have fastened lighted candles, these they set afloat on the stream opposite the *Hotel-de-Ville*. Crowds of people assemble to witness this whimsical amusement, and to listen to the following couplet sung by these little urchins—

Les champs-Golot,
Les Tours-relot,
Pâques revient,
C'est un grand bien.

Pour les chats et pour les chiens
Et les gens tout aussi bien.

* This fête takes place some time in February; *les Brandons*, on the first Sunday in the month of March, when the young people assemble and amuse themselves on a rock in the

neighbourhood, after which they separate, forming different parties, who kindle bonfires, which they call *Bures*. A large circle is then formed, and the president of the ceremony calls with a loud voice upon all the lovers, whom he designates *Valentins* and *Valentines*, in the company, to approach: in obedience to this summons they advance in pairs and walk round the *Bures*, when the *Valentine* gives a kiss to the *Valentin*, which he is obliged to repay in the course of the week by a present, called a *Rachat*. Should the lover be backward in performing this part of the ceremony, he would be exposed to the raillery of his companions, as well as his unfortunate *Valentine*.

Epinal manufactures linen, thread, stockings, paper, earthenware, and oil: its trade consists chiefly in corn, hemp, and wood, which is converted into casks and planks.

Long. $4^{\circ} 14'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 22'$. Sixty-four leagues east by south from Paris. Fifty posts and a quarter.

DOMREMY.—This small village would have remained for ever buried in oblivion had it not been for the celebrated *Joan of Arc*

De Domremy chantons tous le village,
Faisons passer son beau nom d'âge en âge.
O Domremy ! tes pauvres environs
N'ont ni muscots, ni pêche, ni citrons,
Ni mine d'or, ni bon vin qui font d'ivrogne:
Mais c'est à toi que la France doit Jeanne.

All historical facts relating to this renowned female are too well-known to be reprinted here; but as the honours that have been paid to her memory in modern times may not be so familiar to the youthful readers, for whom this volume is particularly intended, they shall be inserted for their amusement and advantage. Joan was born in the small village of *Domremy*, in the department of the *Vosges*, upon the banks of the *Meuse*, three leagues from *Neufchâteau*. The home of the heroine is situated very near the parish church, which is placed under the invocation of *Saint Remy*. In this church, where Joan was baptized, there is on each side of the altar, supporting an escutcheon bearing the arms of the family of *du Lys*, the name given to her family by Charles VII., accompanied by letters of nobility, declaring them capable of possessing and acquiring noble fiefs. These arms were azure, bearing a sword in pale crossed and

pommé d'or, supporting on the point a closed crown of France, and on each side a *fleur de lys* in or. In 1581, *Montaigne* says in his travels—"Je vis le devant de la maisonnette, où Jeanne naquit, tréte peincte de ses gestes; mais l'age en avoit fort corrompu la peinture." The most interesting object in this house, was the discovery of a statue within the wall representing Joan on her knees, bareheaded, and armed *cap-à-pié*. Her hair is long and flows over her shoulders, upon which there are still some remains of gilding. Historians always describe her as having fine black hair, which she wore short, as more convenient in battle, but she might possibly have concealed her flowing locks under her helmet: this statue contains perhaps the only real resemblance to *la Pucelle*, but the nose is injured, so that that distinguishing feature cannot be ascertained from it; the corner of the mouth is likewise impaired, and the right arm is broken off at the shoulder. Over the door of entrance, which is of gothic structure, there are three shields and two mottoes; the arrangement will be ascertained by the annexed view.



The Cottage in which Joan of Arc was born.

The wheat sheaf and the motto "*Vive labour*," and the escutcheon on the right; have allusion to the employment of Joan's family. The middle escutcheon containing the arms of France, over which is, "*Vive le roi, Loys*," and the date 1481, seem to intimate that it was Louis XI. who caused this memorial to be erected. The third escutcheon on the left, contains the arms granted to the heroine. The family of *du Lys* became extinct in 1760, in the person of *Messire Henry François-de-Coulombe du Lys*, canon

of *Champeau*, and prior of *Coutras*. But there are, nevertheless, families in *Lorraine* who claim a descent from the brothers of *la Pucelle*.

In 1814, the house, which appears to have been forgotten in France, became all at once an object of interest. It was visited by very many of the officers of the allied army, who carried away pieces of wood, which they had torn from the rafters and floor, as relics. The Austrian princes visited the humble dwelling, and a Prussian noble wishing to purchase it, offered the owner, *M. Gerardin*, 6000 francs, which were refused. The government being informed of this circumstance, proposed to purchase it likewise, and *M. Gerardin* fixed the price at 2,500 francs. Louis the XVIII. sent him the cross of the *Legion of Honour*, and 20,000 francs as a present to the department of the *Vosges*, to be employed in founding a school for young girls, and for a monument to *Jeanne d'Arc*. A fountain was chosen, as an object at once of beauty and utility, on the top of which was to be placed a statue of *la Pucelle*, in white marble, a present from Louis the XVIII. likewise. On the 25th July, 1820, the first stone of the fountain was laid, and on the 10th Sept. it was completed. The *maisonette* of Joan underwent some repairs and alterations: the chimney-piece which had been removed from the chamber in which she was born, was replaced, and the windows were glazed with painted glass of the fifteenth century. Some iron stanchions were also replaced, and a marble table was attached to the wall, upon which were engraven the date and the intention of these labours, bestowed on the memory of Joan of Arc; and upon the chimney was placed the bust of Louis XVIII., the active mover of these testimonies of national gratitude. Perhaps this bust exists no longer. The flag which was displayed on all public occasions at *Domremy*, was placed beside the bust; 15,000 persons were present at this &c. In the front of the fountain stands the school-house for young girls: an alley from this house leads to a little court, in which stands the *Maisonette* of the unfortunate Joan of Arc.

Whether the cruelty of the English who massacred Joan of Arc or the ingratitude of Charles VII. and her countrymen, who made no effort to avert her fate, deserves to be most reprehended, is a matter that has never been discussed. But the fact stands recorded as a blot in the historic page of both nations,

never to be effaced, which admits of no palliation : it is even said that the governor of *Orleans* was accessory to her captivity, and that he ordered the drawbridge to be hastily drawn up, just as she was entering the city, because he was jealous of her authority and influence.

The capture of Joan was celebrated by the English with the most extraordinary demonstrations of joy, and a solemn *Te Deum* appointed. Joan, who had hitherto been considered a saint while in prosperity, was in the hour of adversity denominated a sorceress, and it was resolved in council to try her as such : the petition for carrying this sentence into execution was presented by the *Bishop of Beauvais*, and the learned University of Paris joined in the same request ! Several prelates, among whom, for the honour of the British prelacy let it be named, the *Bishop of Winchester* was the only Englishman, were appointed judges. It was at Rouen she was tried ; she appeared before the court in her military apparel. She behaved herself very gallantly, and appealed to God and the Pope for the truth of her former revelations. She was, however, condemned to be burnt alive. Terror and rigorous treatment so subdued her spirit, that eventually she declared herself willing to confess her errors, and solemnly promise never again to have recourse to such vain delusions, or impose upon the people. Female apparel was then given to her, and the sentence was softened to that of perpetual imprisonment, with bread and water for her food. But here the enmity of her foes did not terminate, nor was any effort made during this period by her friends for her release. The former, indeed, watched with cruel anxiety for some pretext to execute the unjust sentence of death pronounced against her : they placed in her prison the military habit which she had worn in her days of triumph, hoping she would be tempted to put it on. The stratagem succeeded.—she could not resist the temptation, and this was made the paltry excuse for putting her to death, upon the pretext that she had relapsed into her former transgressions, and was therefore unworthy to live. Such was the fate of a woman to whose memory the Greeks would have erected temples.

PLOMBIÈRES, seated between two mountains, is famous for its hot baths, the waters of which are highly beneficial in fevers, rheumatic complaints, the colic, and inflammatory diseases of almost every description. The Romans appear to have had great

faith in the efficacy of mineral springs, for wherever they are found, there is always some trace more or less distinct, that the conquerors of the known world had made use of them. It is asserted that Julius Cæsar constructed those of *Plombières*. The great bath is uncovered, and is of an oval form, fifty-four feet long, and capable of containing 120 persons! the bottom is paved with stone. These waters issue from the adjoining mountains; they are hot enough to boil an egg in a very short space of time;—yet, if placed on the fire, they do not boil sooner than cold water from a cistern or well. Those waters which are drunk are only lukewarm; a small tap has been placed in the mountain, and the water is drawn off at pleasure: it is exceedingly clear at the spring, but it deposits a white slime, which may be separated into layers.

There is a beautiful walk belonging to the town called *promenade des dames*, which was planted by Stanislaus, King of Poland, for the pleasure of Les Mesdames of France, sisters of Louis XV. There is also a fountain erected by that Polish prince.



Fontaine du Roi, &c. &c.

Plombières has fine manufactories for paper, steel, and thread.
 Long. $4^{\circ} 6'$; lat. $47^{\circ} 59'$.

The mineral waters of *Bussing* are as cold as those of *Plombières* are hot: to the right of this place is the famous peak of the *Vosges*, called *balcon d'Alsace*.

SECTION XXV.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF ALSACE.

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF BAS RHIN AND HAUT RHIN.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF BAS RHIN.

THE department of *Bas Rhin* is formed by the union of *Bas Alsace* with some ancient lordships of Lorraine and Germany.

SOIL.—Remarkably fertile.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Vosges*, which are not here very lofty.

RIVERS.—Besides the *Rhin*, there are the *Sarre*, and the *Moselle*. Numerous canals assist the interior navigation, and when the projected great undertakings are carried into effect, this department will rival every other in France in this respect: a canal is intended to unite the *Seine* and the *Rhin*. Upon the opposite bank, in the duchy of *Baden*, near to *Rehl*, the canal which is to join the *Rhin* to the *Danube* is to be commenced.

• MINES.—Twenty-eight iron mines are in work; antimony, cobalt, ochre, asphaltus, bitumen, and pit-coal are also abundant; quarries of granite, slate, gypsum, &c. In the canton of *Ville* there are traces of a gold mine, and the *Rhin* deposits small pellets of gold of an irregular form, and of a remarkable pureness.

MINERAL WATERS.—The most remarkable are those of *Niederbronn*.

Several springs of salt water are also found in the cantons of *Dicmaringen*, *Harskirch*, and *Soultz*; the salt of the latter is excellent.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Pierre Schoeffer*, the printer, *Martin Bucer*, a celebrated protestant divine, who had been formerly a Dominican monk. *Jean Baptiste Kleber*, *Kellermann*, *Oberlin*, *Hermann*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic; forming part of the diocese of *Strasbourg*. The members of the reformed religion have two consistorial churches, one at *Strasbourg*, the other at *Bischwiller*, upon which depend fourteen pastors: the Protestants are here very numerous. The jews have likewise a consistorial synagogue consisting of four rabbins and four lay members.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz. *Strasbourg*, *Wittenbourg*, *Scilestadt*, *Saverne*. Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Colmar*; it is comprised in the fifth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

STRASBOURG was originally built by the Celts, who called it *Argentorat*, alluding to its wealth. *Drusus*, son-in-law to *Cæsar Augustus*, here erected a fortress to defend the passage of the *Rhine* and protect the empire from the Germans, who nevertheless frequently ravaged the city. The Huns destroyed it under the inflexible *Attila*, but the Franks having established themselves in Gaul, erected a town A.D. 504, near the ruins of *Argentorat* to which they gave the name of *Stratâ-Burgom*: it subsequently belonged to the German empire, until the treaty of *Ryswick* gave it to France, A.D. 1697. *Strasbourg* is a large, beautiful, and populous town, agreeably seated on the river *Ill*, near the *Rhin*; a fine wooden bridge unites *Strasbourg* with *Kehl*, on the opposite side of the stream; it is 600 feet long and 30 wide; 16 feet above the highest elevation of the waters. Half this bridge belongs to the Duke of Baden, and the other half to France. In forty-eight hours this bridge of wood can be taken down with facility.

The cathedral of *Strasbourg* was founded by *Clovis*, A.D. 504. *Charlemagne* finished the choir, and the bishop *Venetius* employed fourteen years in beautifying the nave: but beautiful as this part of the building is, it is the tower which excites the wonder and admiration of all who behold it. It is the highest edifice in Europe, and some say, three feet higher than the tallest Egyptian pyramid, being 448 feet high; others affirm that it is three feet lower. It is most beautifully constructed of a lace-work of stone, and so richly ornamented with embossed work, that by a skilful person in the art of climbing, it could

be ascended from the outside with safety: 635 steps conduct the more prudent traveller to its summit; this tower was 162 years before it was completed, by a succession of four renowned architects. In the church of the cathedral, besides the choir, is a clock of astonishing mechanic power. Some portions of it retain their action, but the greater part of the works are injured. The following description gives its details as originally constructed:—

This famous clock, the master piece of a rising art, was invented by two celebrated mathematicians, Dasypadius and Wolkenstenius, in the year 1571. Among other things truly curious, an immense celestial globe was remarked in it, in which were seen three very distinct movements; first, that of the globe itself, which turned from east to west in twenty-four hours; then that of the sun, which took a year to pass through the signs of the zodiac; and lastly, that of the moon, which completed its revolution in twenty-eight days. The machines which put this globe in motion, were hidden in the body of a pelican; the pole was indicated by a star of copper, and the zenith by an angel placed in the middle of the meridian.

Two great circles also were seen, one of nine feet surrounding one of eight; the first turned from north to south; the one to the north, which indicated each day of the week, supported two angels, and the other to the south, pointed out the day that ought to come six days later. The inner circle turned from north to south, and took a century to return to the same point. Different things were represented in it, such as the year of the world, the year of Jesus Christ, the circle of the sun, the equinoxes, the change of the celestial points, which were produced by the movement called *trepidation*, the bissextile year, the moveable feasts, the dominical letter, and the golden number. There was found in it also, an immoveable index, which enclosed all these wonders for different years; the lower extremity of this index was joined to its immoveable circle, upon which were represented *Alsace*, and the town of *Strasbourg*. On each side of this circle, on the wall, the eclipses of the sun and moon were indicated from 1573 to 1624.

The third thing worthy of notice, was the weekly movement of the planets. On Sunday the sun was seen driving his car, and when his course was finished, Monday (*Lundi*) appeared,

that is to say, the moon, in all her splendour; then the horses of Mars' car showed their heads, and so on for the rest of the week. The fourth was a dial for the minutes; on the north side a child, with a sceptre in his hand, gave notice of the hour that was going to strike; another child on the south side, held an hour-glass, which was in perfect harmony with the clock; and when the hour struck, the child turned the hour-glass. Above the dial of minutes, was a dial for the hour: the outer circumference contained the hours, and in the middle, there was an astrolabe which showed the movement of each planet, its appearance, and in what sign, in what degree and in what hour it was placed in the different parts of the day. The movements of the sun and moon were also seen, as well as the head and tail of the dragon.

There was yet another circle, in which was shown the rising and setting of the moon, as well as the quarter in which she was.

Four little bells struck the quarter, the half-hour, and the three-quarters. At the first quarter a little child appeared, which struck the first bell with an apple; then it went and placed itself near the fourth bell: next came a youth who threw a dart upon two bells, and took his place by the child. At the third quarter an armed man struck three bells with a halbert and succeeded the youth. At the fourth quarter an old man appeared, who struck four bells with a crooked stick. Death immediately rushed out to strike the hour, it hovered over the four ages, in order to seize those who presented themselves; but the Saviour of the world arrived, who protected the youngest, and Death could only take away the old man.

Lastly, at the top of this matchless piece of workmanship was a tower, containing a chime of bells which played at three, seven, and eleven o'clock, a different tune, and at Christmas, Easter, and the Pentecost, a tune of rejoicing. When the music ceased, the cock which was placed at the top of the tower, stretched out his neck, flapped his wings, and crowed twice. The tower enclosed all the ingenious mechanism of this curious clock, of which now but a very small part remains. In 1822, that part representing the figures which struck the hours, was perfect, but whether they be so now, the writer does not presume to determine.

The church of *Saint Thomas* belongs to the protestants; it contains a splendid monument to the memory of Marshal Saxe,

erected by order of Louis XV. The figure of Marlice, with his brows encircled by laurel, and the marshal's baton in his hand, is in the act of descending the steps of the tomb, his countenance is calmly fixed on Death, who points to the gloomy abode: France, placed upon the steps, is looking tenderly at the Marshal, and appears to interrupt his progress with one hand, while with the other she is opposing the advance of Death. Allegorical figures represent on the right the nations he has conquered, on the other side, Love with his torch bent downwards, sheds tears as he looks at the hero. The tomb is surmounted by a pyramid behind which is the figure of a Hercules, whose countenance expresses the greatest grief; this last figure would have been better omitted, it destroys the simplicity, unity and grandeur of the tomb. Indeed, it is most likely that the eye and the mind are so riveted to the principal group, that Hercules may pass unobserved; *tant mieux!* The tombs of Generals Dessaix and Kleber are likewise in Strasbourg, and of a less costly description than that of Marshal Saxe, but their memory is deservedly not less dear to their countrymen.

Beautiful barracks, a military hospital, a splendid and rich library, a magnificent *Place d'Armes*, four beautiful streets, these compose the chief attractions of Strasbourg, which is more extensive than magnificent, except in the public edifices that have been named. The citadel is one of the finest in France, and does honour to the engineer, Vauban. The walk of *le Broglie*, within the walls, and of the *Ile de Robertsace* without, form two very delightful promenades. A large tree in the neighbourhood, which can cover 80 persons with its shadow, and amid the branches of which, several summer-houses have been constructed, afford an agreeable rendezvous for the inhabitants. The botanical gardens are worth seeing, as well as the orangery, which was translated from *Bourville* by the Strasburghers. All the people of Strasbourg go with their heads uncovered: the women knot up their hair very prettily.

Jean Guttenberg was a native of this town, but he settled at Mayence, where he set up his first printing press.

Strasbourg is the entrepôt for commerce between France, Germany, and Switzerland. It also contains a consistorial synagogue of the Jews, and it is the general consistory of the protestants of the *Bas* and *Haut Rhin*. The manufactures of

this town are too numerous to be detailed. and its territory produces wine, tobacco, hemp, and madder.

Geographers fix its position in long. $5^{\circ} 24' 36''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 34' 56''$. One hundred and sixteen leagues east of Paris, and sixty posts and a half.

At *Mutzig*, a little to the right of *Strasbourg*, in one of the most picturesque spots of the *Vosges*, the *Hassel* descending from one of the mountains, forms the beautiful cascade of *Nider*, so called from a castle on the rock above it. On each side thick forests form a boundary to the silver sheet of waters, and produce a beautiful as well as magnificent contrast: at no very great distance there is a smaller cascade which falls from a basin into one beneath it, at the distance of thirty or forty feet.

SAVERNE, on the *Sort*, at the foot of the *Vosges*, is the ancient *Tabern* of the Romans, built by Julius Cæsar. It is to Julius Cæsar we are indebted for the division of the year into 52 weeks, 365 days; and as if to commemorate an invention so important, Cæsar, suspecting mankind to be at times forgetful of the benefits they receive, formed the fantastic, vain, and fruitless project of immortalizing the fact, by a construction in fragile and perishable brick and mortar. The walls of *Saverne* were defended by 52 towers; the pinnacles of the battlements between these towers, of which there were 365, were divided into sevens.

Saverne has manufactories of sheeting, stockings, fûr, tobacco, &c. The best French maps assign, long. $2^{\circ} 26'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 44' 20''$ north to this place.

Not very far from *Saverne*, is the beautiful valley of *Kronenthal*, (valley of the crown) which derives its name from having been the residence of some of the early kings of France. It contains some very fine quarries of free-stone.

HAGUENAU is a small town on the *Moder*, tolerably well fortified: it is particularly healthy, and thither the invalid soldiers are sent from the neighbouring garrisons. In 1164 Frederic Barbarossa fortified this town, and built a fine palace within its walls, in which he deposited the crown, the sceptre, the globe, and the sword of Charlemagne. The bishop of *Spires* transported them into the castle of *Trifels*. *Haguenau* was formerly an opulent town, but this is no longer the case, a circumstance not at all surprising, when it is known that between the year 1673 and 1706, it was seven times regularly besieged.

Between *Haguenau*, and *Wissenbourg*, there is a mineral spring possessing salt and ferruginous qualities: this spring is very much frequented. These baths, though known at the time of the invasion of the Franks, were neglected until 1592, when the Count of *Haguenau* resolved on cleaning the spring. Three hundred medals in different metals were then discovered bearing the effigy of several Roman emperors, a circumstance which proves that the waters of *Niderbroon* were well known to the Romans. In the neighbourhood of this village a hot bath has been discovered, and a column erected to Jupiter, as well as a stone, upon which an officer of the eighth legion had engraven his name. Between *Niderbroon* and *Soultz*, at *Lamperstock*, the fountain of *Bockelbounn*, or *Pechelbounn* was discovered; the waters produce a kind of black bitumen and red oil which covers its surface at intervals; the waters themselves are limpid and clear, yet they have a very fetid smell; this naturally excited inquiry, and upon digging near the spring, four beds or layers of asphaltus were discovered, extending six leagues round. This mine is now worked, and two wells have been formed.

Among the groups of mountains which contribute to the picturesque beauty of this department, are some which are independent of the *Vosges*. One of these, called *Hohenbourg*, or the mountain of *Sainte Adille*, is peculiarly interesting, not only on account of its situation, but from the circumstances from which it derives its name. There was here formerly a vast Roman camp, the walls of which were fifteen feet high: it encircled not only this mountain, but several of the adjacent ones, and a broad paved road facilitated the passage over it. Between the trees of the forests some remains of this wall may be still discovered. A strong castle, said to have been built by Maximilian Hercules, stands on its summit; around which the Romans, the Huns, the Vandals, and the Burgundians, shed torrents of blood. In after times, Duke *Alaric*, the father of the counts and dukes of Burgundy, discovered the remains of this castle, and being of a gloomy disposition, he caused it to be repaired, and within its dark walls, and amid the sombre forests which surround it, he spent his days. He had been disappointed on the birth of his first child, who was a daughter, born blind, and in a burst of rage and passion he desired it might be instantly destroyed. *Berisindg*, his wife, heard this decree with horror;

but she contrived to elude the savage command, and consigning her infant to the care of a stranger, Alaric was informed that the child was dead. The birth of a son did not dissipate the passions of the duke: shut up in his castle, he was approached with terror by all his attendants. In the meanwhile, his daughter received the name of *Odile*; she was carefully brought up, and at the age of six years the nurse took her to the village of *Baume-les-Nonnains*, in the environs of *Besançon*, where she recovered her sight; but the legend does not say whether from the use of the springs, or by an operation. When she was grown up, her brother introduced her into the castle, where she ventured to make herself known to her cruel father, who spurned her from him, and the terrified girl fled and took refuge in a convent. Nature, however, at length prevailed, and Alaric went himself in search of his daughter, and strove by every means in his power to make amends for his former unnatural and cruel conduct: he relinquished the castle, that she might convert it into a monastery, and erected a dwelling for himself and *Berésinde* near to it, where they both died in the arms of *Odile*. *Hohenbourg* is no longer a religious house; but the buildings still remain. The stone coffin of *Odile*, which the revolutionists of 1793 did not spare, has been replaced in a chapel dedicated to her. At the extremity of the monastic garden there is the *chapelle des larmes*, in which *Alaric* used to retire, to repent and weep for his past crimes. Another small chapel, called *la chapelle suspendue*, stands on the edge of the mountain on this spot. Under the shadow of a large lindetree, the spectator, if his head grow not giddy, may enjoy one of the finest prospects that can be conceived. Among the illustrious pilgrims who have visited the tomb of *Odile*, were the wife of *Charlemagne*; *Richard*, wife of *Charles le Gros*; the Emperor *Charles IV.*; *Richard Cœur de Lion*; *Christian I.*, king of Denmark; a king of Cyprus; and Pope *Leo IX.*

2. DEPARTMENT OF HAUT RHIN.

THE department of *Haut Rhin* is composed of *Haute Alsace*, *Sundza*, and the ancient republic of *Mulhausen*. It is a frontier department on the East.

SOIL.—The ancient province of *Alsace* is one of the most fertile countries in the world.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Vosges*, which intersect this department, are here lofty mountains, the summits of which are round; hence they have acquired the name of *ballons*.

RIVERS.—The only navigable rivers of this department are the *Rhin*, which borders it on the east, and the *Ill*, which traverses it from north to south.

CANALS.—Two canals assist the interior navigation: that of *Neuf-Brisach* from *Ensisheim* to *Schelstadt*, and that of *Rhin et Rhone*.

MINES.—This department is particularly rich in mineral productions. Silver, copper, and lead are found united in the same mine. Iron, antimony, cobalt, pit-coal, asphaltus, &c. Quarries of clay, ochre, gypsum, &c.

MINERAL WATERS.—These are numerous; but there are no establishments of baths but those of *Soultzmatt*, the waters of which are strongly impregnated with carbonic acid; they are nevertheless much drank.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Lefebvre*, duke of Dantzic; General *Rapp*; *Leon IX.*; *Martin Schoen*, a celebrated engraver; *L'Abbé de La Porte*; *Fregon*; Generals *Beurmann*, *Schärer*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Strashourg. The Protestants have a consistorial church at *Mulhausen*, having ten pastors dependent upon it. The Jews have likewise a consistorial synagogue, composed of four rabbi and four lay members.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz:—*Colmar*, *Altkirch*, *Belfort*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of Colmar. It is comprised in the fifth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

COLMAR is placed in a beautiful plain near the river *Ill*. It is erected on the site of the ancient *Argentaria*, afterwards called *Collis Martis* by the Franks, from its proximity to a mountain, on which was a temple dedicated to Mars. It is a large and clean town, through which flow the rivers *Fech* and *Lauch*. It contains a fine arsenal, an orangery, a nursery, and some good walks. The wines in its neighbourhood are very celebrated.

Long. $5^{\circ} 2' 11''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 4' 44''$ One hundred and sixteen leagues east from Paris.

MULHAUSEN was formerly the capital of a small republic; but in 1798 it was united to France. It is said, its name is derived from the number of windmills (*moulins*) in its neighbourhood. The inhabitants have distinguished themselves in many manufactures, and carry on a good brisk trade in sheeting, blankets, silk stockings, paper for hangings, kirschenwarcs, &c.; and its territory produces wheat, wine, and fruits.

This department lies between the *Rhine* and the *Vosges*, and abounds with towns and villages. The bosom of the earth is rich in mines, and its surface is covered with vegetable productions. Madder and tobacco are plentiful, and the summits of the *Vosges* are covered with thick forests,

SECTION XXVI.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF BOURGOGNE.

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF YONNE, CÔTE-D'OR, SAÔNE
ET LOIRE, AND AIN.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF YONNE.

THIS is an inland department (centre): it is composed of portions of *Bourgogne* and *Champagne*.

SOIL.—Nothing can be more opposite than the different parts of the *Yonne*: open, uncultivated lands; barren hills; clayey fields, intersected by ponds.

MOUNTAINS.—There are none, properly speaking; but there are rocks near *Arcy*; and in the south-west there is a chain of hills.

RIVERS.—The *Yonne* and the *Seine*.

FORESTS.—The forest of *Morlaix* is very productive.

MINES.—Iron is found in this department.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Pierre Crespit*; *Loyseau*; and *Bourdets*; Generals *Accon*, *Drapes*; *Jacques Almain*, a celebrated theologian.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the archbishop of *Sens*. Its judicial government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Paris*, and it is comprised in the eighteenth military division.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Auxerre*, *Sens*, *Joigny*, *Tonnerre*, and *Avallon*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AUXERRE is irregularly built, many of its principal buildings being mixed with low, ill-constructed, wooden houses. There are, however, two or three streets which are exempt from such a nuisance. It contains likewise, two squares, the episcopal palace, and the cathedral, the windows of which are composed of old painted glass. The extraordinary height of this building is thus accounted for: the architect having been limited to the exact extent of ground which the old church had occupied, resolved that it should surpass it in lofty grandeur. The quay on the banks of the *Yonne* is extensive and commodious. *Auxerre* formerly possessed an abbey, called *Saint Germain*, which contained the bodies of sixty saints; but the Revolution of 1793 levelled it with the dust. *Auxerre* is a very ancient town; it has been alternately ravaged by the Huns, the Saracens, the Normans, and the English, independently of the numerous *saccagemens* it has undergone from the different hostile parties of France. Its trade consists in hemp, iron, steel, wine, wood, and spun cotton.

Near the village of *Arcy*, about six leagues from *Auxerre*, the rocks rise perpendicularly to a great height, at the foot of which there are deep caverns; from one of these issues the *Eure*, after a course of two leagues under ground. This is the land of enchantment: it is like Caliban's cave—for on following the course of the river, the hills become gradually covered with wood, along which the path lies; and here the echoes give back, not only words, but short stanzas, as it is said; and if a song or instruments be tuned to melody, then this place will be

“ Full of noises,

Sounds, and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt no

Sometimes a thousand twanging instruments

Will hum about your ears; and sometimes voices.”

The interior of these rocks contain the grottoes of *Arcy*. The entrance to them is through a large cavern, which contracts so

that at its extremity an opening of four feet only remains; this has been closed with a door, by the family of *D'Arcy*. Through this portal the traveller enters an apartment which is unornamented; but it leads to a succession of seven or eight, more or less embellished by fanciful figures in stalactite. In one saloon there is the representation of a fortress, with soldiers in the act of storming it; and another of a woman with a child in her arms. In every figure a tube is observed, through which the waters filter. The extremity of the suspended points is generally tender, and not of that dazzling whiteness which the firmer parts present. They are full of echoes, though you

—"Tread softly, that the blind mole may not
'Keep a foot-fall."

Long. $1^{\circ} 14' 60''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 57'$. Forty-four leagues south-east from Paris. Twenty posts and three-quarters by *Melun*; and twenty-one posts and a half by *Fontainebleau*.

The country between this and *Sens* is thus described by *Bertin*:—

" Là des prés étendus, là des collines vertes
Où mûrit, plein de pourpre, un faisin velouté ;
Ici des bois touffus, et des valles couvertes
Où l'amour, vers le soir, égare la beauté,
Un pont majestueux unit la double rive ;
Des casernes de Mars ici regnent les murs,
Et l'Yonne, en son cours, errante et fugitive,
Se plaît à les baigner de ses flots toujours purs."

JUVIGNY. The first little town that presents itself, is scarcely worth mentioning, but that its name is derived from *Jovian*, one of the ancient prefects of the Gauls, and this record speaks of its antiquity. In the neighbourhood of *Brienon*, a labourer, as he was ploughing his field, found a vase, containing 4500 bronze medals, from the time of *Constantine* to *Maxime*. *Moslay-le-Roi* is the ancient *Mossolacum* of the kings of the first race of France.

SENS.—The waters of the *Vanne* flow through this town, and keep it exceedingly clean. The ramparts are remarkable for the numerous remains of pagan temples of which they are partly constructed. The cathedral is also indebted for many of its ornaments, to the same source, although it is, strictly speaking, of gothic architecture. The tombs of the dauphin, son of

Louis XV., and that of his wife, *Marië Josephë-de-Saxe*, have been replaced. It contains also, in one of the chapels, the tomb of *Saint Savien*, the first bishop of *Sens*, who suffered martyrdom in the third century. The beautiful painted windows are the work of *Jean Cousin*. The library contains the original MSS. for the Offices *des Fous*, and of *la Prose d'Anc.*

Among the illustrious persons of antiquity, the ancient generals *Accon* and *Drapès*, who bravely and obstinately opposed *Cæsar*, and the merchant *Sauron*, whose valour and prudence called him to the throne of *Sclaronia*, were citizens of *Sens*, A. D. 630. *Jean Gouge*, a Jew, a native of this town, distinguished himself by his audacity, during the reign of *Jean-le-Bon*. Having by his wealth obtained more than an ordinary degree of consideration, and even rank, than was common in those distant times, for so humble an individual, he entertained the ambitious hope of placing himself far above all human control, and presumptuously assumed the title of king of France: for this purpose he raised troops, and appointed an English gentleman, named *Vernay*, (who had been banished his native country for his crimes,) his lieutenant, with whom he proceeded triumphantly to *Avignon*; but there terminated his vain dream of grandeur. The seneschal of *Provence*, assisted by *John's* troops, took both *Gouge* and *ernay* prisoners.

The *Sénonais* were among the bravest and foremost of the troops of *Brennus*, when he attacked *Rome*. The ancient Gauls, indeed, maintained that a long line of kings, from the earliest ages, had governed this part of ancient Gaul: of whom, however, no records remain. The Romans embellished *Sens*, and called it *Agendicum*. Under the dominion of the Saracens, it took the name of *Orbandelle*, in allusion to the rows of gilt bricks with which they decorated the walls, like a belt. *Julian* the apostate fortified himself in this town, when attacked by the Germans, A. D. 356.

Sens contains manufactures of cotton-velvet, sheets, druggets, serges, stockings, &c. Its territory produces wine, grains, wood, coal, and hemp.

Long. 57° 21'; lat. 48° 11' 58". Thirty leagues south-east from Paris.

2.—DÉPARTEMENT OF CÔTE-D'OR.

The *Côte-d'Or* is an inland department (E.), formed of a part of ancient *Bourgogne*.

SOIL.—The face of the country is intersected by mountains, hills, and plains. It is generally stony; yet the grain which is raised in the *Côte-d'Or* is fine, though not abundant. Towards the south the earth is rich and fertile.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains which traverse this department are considered as a branch of the Alps. Towards the south-west, and about half a league from *Dijon*, commences the chain called *Côte d'Or*, on the sides of which the vine is successfully cultivated.

FORESTS.—There occupy one-quarter of the department. Next to the *Vosges*, this is the most woody department in France. The oak and the beech form their chief and constituent parts; the linden-tree, maple, and the plane, are among the more rare of the coppice wood, which is principally composed of the lute-tree and the service-tree.

RIVERS.—The *Seine* rises in this département between *Saint-Seine* and *Chanceaux*: the *Aube*, the *Deure*, *Saône*, and *Vingenne*, are minor streams, that spread fertility through the country they traverse. Two canals, that of *Bourgogne*, which joins the *Saône* to the *Seine*, pass the *Yonne*; and the canal which is now in construction, and is to join the *Rhone* to the *Rhin*.

MINERAL PRODUCTIONS.—The mines in the *Côte-d'Or* occupy the first rank among its mineral productions. Pit-coal, free-stone, mill-stone, lithographic stone, bone, gypsum, potter's earth, and marble, constitute part of its subterranean treasures. The *Granit de Bourgogne* is red, and remarkably fine. At *Saint-Seine* there is a stone of so flaky a nature as to be easily split into flakes, which are used for roofing houses, instead of slates.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are several; but there is no establishment for the accommodation of visitors.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Of the house of Burgundy, *Philippe-le-Hardi*, *Philippe-le-bon*; *Jean-sans-Peur*, and *Charles-le-Téméraire*. *Saint Bernard*, who reached the crusades; *Theodore Beza*, a protestant preacher of great renown; *Buffon*; *Daubenton*; *Jean Cousin*; *Crebillon* and *Longuepierre*, dramatic and

tragic authors; *Soufflot*, the architect of the Pantheon; Marshals *Marmont*, *Junot*; *Comte de Peluse*, one of the founders of the Polytechnique School; *Maret*, duke of *Bassano*; *Denon*; *Petitot*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Dijon*. The Protestants have an oratory attached to the reformed church at *Besançon*, and one house of prayer. The Jews have a synagogue at *Dijon*. The number of Hebrews in the department amounts to three hundred and eighty.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Dijon*, *Châtillon-sur-Seine*, *Baume*, *Seinur*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Dijon*. It is comprised in the eighteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

DIJON.—The early history of this town is lost in the darkness of antiquity. The first authentic records relate that *Cæsar* established a camp of eight legions on this spot, to protect the *Eduans* against the Germans, the *Helvetians*, and the *Sequanians*. This camp he surrounded with a wall, and he then gave it the name of *Castrum Divionense*. After the departure of the troops, several merchants and tradespeople, who had been drawn thither by the congregation of this large number of human beings, still continued to reside within the walls, converting their temporary habitations into dwellings of a more lasting description. The *Sequanians* having again invaded this part of Gaul, *Marcus Aurelius* surrounded it with fresh fortifications, and the emperor *Aurelian* greatly enlarged it. The *Burgundians*, having, in the sequel, got possession of this fertile country, it became the capital of the dukes of *Burgundy*. In 1137 it was almost destroyed by fire. The dukes of *Burgundy* were formidable enemies to the kings of France, and it was not until the death of *Charles the Bold*, that it was united to France.

Dijon is seated in an agreeable plain, abounding with vineyards. The ancient *Palais des Etats* was built by *Louis XII.*, upon the site formerly occupied by the palace of the Duke of *Burgundy*: an old tower, which is used as an observatory, is all that is standing of the former edifice. The place contains a museum, in which there are many models and paintings of the ancient *Chartreuse* of *Dijon*. The church of *Notre Dame*

has been much talked of, but some of its proportions are considered defective: the pillars, for instance, which support the roof, are not sufficiently large; yet, to those who are not connoisseurs, either as architects professionally, or as amateurs, it is a fine, noble, and beautiful building. It contains a remarkable clock, which was brought from *Courtrai* by *Philip the Bold*, duke of Burgundy, after the battle of *Rosebeck*, to punish the inhabitants for refusing to restore the gold spurs of the French knights killed under its walls in 1342. The clock was carefully brought to *Dijon* in a cart, and set up, with *Jaquemart* and his wife, two stone figures, who still strike the hours. The little child who now accompanies them is supposed to be of comparative modern invention. There is an old French poem, by a vinedresser of *Dijon*, in which is the following stanza:—

Ja-quémart de rien ne s'étonne,
 Le froid de l'ivar, de l'automne,
 Le chaud de l'été, du printemps,
 Ne l'on su randre mancontant.
 Qu'ai pleuve, qu'ai noge, qu'ai croie.
 El é sai tête dans sai caule;
 Et le deu pié dans se soulai;
 Ai ne veu pa soti de lai."

Of the origin of these *Jaquemarts*, the most probable is this: it was customary in the middle ages, and is so now in many parts of the continent, in time of war, to place a man upon a steeple, or some high building commanding an extensive view, whose office it was to give the alarm in case of the approach of an enemy, or of fires, thefts, and murders, which might come within their ken; these men were formerly clad in mail. The name of *Jaquemart* is said to be a corruption of *Jaque et maille*. The substitution of figures on the towers, when the police was better regulated, was a subsequent regulation and invention.

The spire of the church *Saint Bénigne* deserves the most unbounded admiration: it is three hundred and seventy-five feet high, and is so light and airy that its point is hardly discernible. This church was founded in the sixth century, upon an ancient grotto, in which were deposited the remains of its patron saint, who suffered martyrdom from the Gauls, whom he endeavoured to convert to Christianity. The portal of *Saint Mihiel* is curious, by a mixture of the three orders of ancient architecture with the

gothic. Over the principal door is a base-relief of pygatory. Among modern buildings the church *des Capucins*, *Saints-Anne* is conspicuous; its dome is its principal ornament; the chief altar is covered by a canopy of different kind of marble. The front of the altar is ornamented by two statues of the presidents *Joli* and *Bouchre*.

The *Place Royale* is in the form of a horse-shoe, opposite to which stands the palace. It was formerly adorned with a statue of Louis XIV., and though in itself beautiful, it is accompanied by one great defect; the buildings behind it rise in unsightly shapes, and form a disagreeable back-ground to that which would otherwise present a very fine *coup-d'œil*.

There are some pretty promenades in its neighbourhood; the chief of these are the walks in the park *La Colombière*, the ramparts, and *l'Arquebuse*. The garden is adorned by a remarkable old poplar, which draws the attention of all the lovers of trees, for it is at least seven feet and a half in diameter.

The inhabitants of this town are not very commercial; they consist, indeed, chiefly of persons in easy circumstances, and the town is therefore remarkably quiet.

Long. $2^{\circ} 41' 50''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 19' 25''$. Seventy-three leagues south-east from Paris, thirty-eight posts. Chief hotel. Hotel Condé.

Vaux-Chignon, or *Vaux Saint-Jean*, is a village, south, in this department, situated in a valley watered by the Oasagne. It contains no object worthy of notice, and is merely mentioned as a sort of leading point, from which the most picturesque parts of the country extend. This valley is surrounded by barren rocks rising one above the other in rugged peaks like walls. At the end of the valley there is a cavity in one of the rocks 600 feet, which is easy of descent, and leads to the source of the Oasagne. A little farther to the north there is another spring issuing from a little valley; the bubbles out in large drops, but flows but twenty-four hours together; this valley is named *Cul-de-sac de Meneval*, but its extraordinary wild and solitary appearance also procured it another denomination, that of *Bout-de-Monde*. The rocks are here rent in the most grotesque forms, lifting their rugged fronts beyond the clouds. In the most gloomy part of these rocks there is a sheet of water, which falls

eighty feet; its breadth varies according to the abundance of the spring, and such is the force with which it falls, that it has formed a basin of forty or fifty feet in circumference in the hard rock. In all these springs much sand stone is found, and the environs abound with curious petrifications. Birds of prey, owls, and mice are likewise abundant.

Bligny is seated in the midst of hills covered with vineyards, yet it is beneath these luxuriant hills that the natural ice-house of *Mavilly* is found, where the ice remains undissolved until very late in the season. At *Auxey* there is a vast cavern, which can only be entered by a slit in a rock; in the middle of this cavern there is a basin surrounded by stalactites of every fantastic form, though not of large dimensions.

BEAUNE.—Contains some buildings capable of gratifying the curiosity of the traveller. The church *Notre-Dame* contains, amongst other objects of curiosity, an altar-piece composed of five different kinds of marble found in the neighbouring quarries; but its magnificent hospital, founded in 1443 by *Nicholas Rollin*, Chancellor of *Philippe-le-Bon*, Duke of Burgundy, is a splendid establishment. Whether *Nicholas* merited the sarcasm launched against him by *Louis XI.* is not ascertained; but that *facetious* as well as cruel monarch, said, that “It was but just, that he who had made so many persons poor, should provide a hospital for them.” Now the founder had absolutely constructed one chamber in this hospital for the king himself, and one for the Duke of Burgundy, and several of its apartments were originally constructed for persons of condition. A strange appropriation for apartments in a charitable institution! Every part of this edifice is conducted with the greatest order and regularity. In one of the chambers there is a model of the hospital in straw-work, with all its apartments, &c. exactly defined and in proportion. The *Beaunois* have several fine walks, *la petite halle*, *le Vauxhall*, and the *jardin Anglais*, which is greatly admired, and is in the evening generally well filled with gay and happy groups.

Beaune is an ancient town. There was found, at no great distance of past time, a very large collection of gold medals in the bed of the *Bougeise*, to the amount of 60,000 francs; some wealthy private individuals were anxious to purchase them, but

the townsfolk imagined they would be worth more, if melted into one common mass—so they put them into a crucible in order to increase their value!

Near Dijon is the thick forest of *Faux*, and adjoining to it stood formerly the abbey of Cîteaux, so called from the great number of cisterns that had been dug within its domains. This abbey, which was the chief of the order of Saint Bernard, had authority over thirty-five convents of monks and nuns, spread over Europe; it enjoyed a revenue of 126,000 francs, and its abbot was subject to the Pope alone. Popes Eugene III., Gregory VIII., Celestin III., and Benet XII., were members of this community. Their territory extended over the vineyards of *La Romanie*, *Richembourg*, *La Tache*, and *Malconsort*. On the *Mont d'Or*, properly so called, at *Vougeot*, grow the famous vines, which these monks divided by lines of latitude, having observed that the fruit of such a height did not produce such delicious wine as the fruit of the higher regions. The following anecdote is given as a proof that these monks were not only connoisseurs in making vineyards, and keeping each grade of different excellence from mingling either with those below or above it; but that they were not less particular in the treatment of the guests who visited them:—

When a visitor arrived, the butler waited to know his degree of rank, by the wine he was to drink. These were of many sorts, but there were two appropriated to the highest grades of society; but so nice were the monks that these two had their distinctions. For instance, when a highly honoured guest was to be served, the superior concluded his order to the butler with "*Vous m'entendez*," and the order for an inferior was "*M'entendez-vous*?"

A certain *Comte de Brienne* having made himself master of this secret, went to pay his respects to the Abbot of Cîteaux, whose order was, "You will give *M. Le Comte* some of my wine of the *clos Vougeot*: *m'entendez-vous*?" The count turned round to the butler, and said, "*Vous l'entendez*?" The abbot repeated his order, and the count his question. The abbot, perceiving that his secret was discovered, burst into a fit of laughter, and the count was favoured with the wine of *Vous m'entendez*.

At *SANLIEU* there are many Druidical remains; there was

indeed formerly at this place a temple of the sun, and one of their sacred woods. Sanlieu was taken and burnt by the English in the fourteenth century, and since that period by the Huguenots and Leaguers. Near Clemeray there is an excellent breed of merino-sheep, which are very numerous, and produce valuable wool. This department abounds in grain of all kinds, wood, and mineral waters, but it is perhaps more celebrated for the numerous men of talent to whom it has given birth. At Montbard *Buffon* was born, in a chateau which is still in existence, and which bears the stamp of having been the habitation of genius. The gardens rise like an amphitheatre behind it, until they reach the summit of the hills, which is crowned by an antique tower, named *La Tour de Saint-Louis*, from whence the sage penetrated the far distant heavens. The cabinet in which he wrote his matchless works is still shewn to visitors *Voltaire*; it is said, stooped to kiss the threshold of the door which led into it. At a short distance from this chateau, is that which was formerly inhabited by *Dauberton*, the pupil and successor of *Buffon*, who was likewise a native of this place. Two leagues from Montbard is the village of *Buffon*, which conferred the title of count of *Buffon* on the celebrated naturalist.

Châtillon is a place of some trade, but contains nothing worthy of remark, except the two eminences called *Chatelet* and *Chateau*, which terminate the two points of the bow formed by the city.

3.—DÉPARTEMENT OF SAÔNE ET LOIRE

THIS is an inland department (E.) composed of a portion of ancient Burgogne.

SOIL.—This department is divided transversely by a chain of mountains into two principal valleys. The soil is various, consisting of stony, marly, calcareous, and silicious, but it is generally fertile, and very proper for the culture of the vine.

RIVERS, CANALS, AND PONDS. The navigable rivers are, the *Loire*, the *Saône*, the *Seille*, and the *Doubs*. The canal du centre, which joins the *Saône* to the *Loire*, also traverses it. A small canal, connected with the metallic works at *Cruzot*, is subterraneous, and the vault through which it passes is so low,

that the navigators lie down in their boats, which they impel by pushing with their feet against its roof.

MINES.—Iron, pit-coal, alabaster, marble, and lithographic stone, &c., and manganese, lead, &c. &c.; beautiful hyacinths, called *hyacinthes de Compostelle*, &c. &c., are among its subterranean treasures.

MINERAL WATERS.—There is a grand establishment at *Bourbon Lancy* for the accommodation of visitors; the waters are considered particularly efficacious in palsy—they are used as baths, and are taken internally.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are many—agriculture, sciences, belles-lettres, &c., a cabinet of mineralogy, schools of drawing, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Jean Cousin, Denon, Madame de Genlis, Lamartine*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholics, forming part of the diocese of *Autun*.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.:—*Maçon, Autun, Chalons-sur-Saône, Charolles, Louhans*.

Its civil government depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Dijon*. It is comprised in the eighteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MAÇON.—The *Hôtel Dieu*, the new church of *Saint-Vincent*, the quays, and some beautiful walks in its neighbourhood, constitute the chief attractions of this town; the latter are interesting, because, in the famine of 1817, many of them were made in order to give employment to the starving poor. The greater number of the streets are narrow; those near the quays excepted, which are nevertheless badly constructed. The wines of *Maçon* are esteemed at *Paris*, and it carries on a good trade in corn, preserved fruits, hats and bonnets, and it has a weekly market for wheat. Its situation on the slope of a hill, upon the banks of the *Saône*, is very pretty.

Long. 2° 29' 53"; lat. 46° 18' 17". Ninety-seven leagues S.E. from *Paris*, fifty posts and a quarter.

* There is a fine abbey of Cistercian monks, founded in 910 by *Bernon de Geziac*, near *Saint Albin*. The costume of the

peasantry in this part of France is very pretty; it has some resemblance to that of the Swiss peasantry.

TOURNUS, *Tinurtium*, boasts of a Roman foundation. It was indeed one of the encampments on the great Roman way; the Emperor Constantine erected a church at this place, on the spot where *Saint Valerian* suffered martyrdom. Margaret, widow of a king of Sicily, also here founded an hospital, and ended her days in peace and quietness, after consecrating her life to the alleviation of suffering humanity. There is here a fine stone bridge over the *Saône*. Its territory produces corn, wine, and quarries of a hard stone, almost equal to marble. The road between this place and *Chalons* is at first hilly, but afterwards it extends into beautiful and luxuriant plains.

CHALONS-SUR-SAÔNE, the ancient *Cabillonum*, is on the old Roman way between Lyons and Boulogne, and Cæsar made it one of his magazines for provisions. It is surrounded by fertile meadows, intermingled with vineyards and extensive forests. *Chalons* is divided into the old and new town; in the former is the *Palais de Justice*, the *Hotel de Ville* (the tower of its clock is very lofty), and the cathedral, remarkable for its antiquity. The new town has very handsome quays, and in the fauxbourg *Saint-Laurent*, which is almost surrounded by water, there is a very fine hospital. The streets are wide, and the walks agreeable. In its vicinity there are the remains of an amphitheatre. They make excellent cel-pies in this town, and the river *Saône* abounds with fish, the scales of which are used in manufacturing what is called Roman pearl.

• *L'axe du centre*, which unites the ocean to the Mediterranean by means of the *Loire* and the *Saône*, makes this town the entrepôt between *Marseilles*, *Paris*, &c.

AUTUN (*Augusto-Dunum*) is situated at the foot of three mountains near the *Arroux*. The antiquity of *Autun* extends beyond the time of Roman power; its name of *Bibracté* *Eduodurum* was changed by Augustus to *Augustodunum*, and the Emperors Claudius and Constantine were no less attached to Autun than Augustus, making it their place of residence, and greatly adding to its magnificence. Tetricus and Attila first ravaged it; then came the Romans, followed by the Burgundians and the Saracens, whose depredations reduced it to a most deplorable state. On one side of the city extends what is called

Le Champ des Urnes, from the number of Roman urns which have been found there. In the middle of this field is a kind of pyramid composed of small stones cemented together, which is supposed either to have formed part of a pharos or mausoleum; one side of it bears the name of *Pierre du Couron*. The gate *Saint André* and that of *Arroux*, which are attached to the town, are in fact two magnificent triumphal arches; the latter is in particular much admired for its richness of style; the stones are so artfully inlaid, the one upon the other, that it is impossible to distinguish the least particle of cement or mortar; when the frontispiece to the *Louvre* was erecting, skilful workmen were despatched to *Autun* to inspect, and, if possible, imitate this piece of exquisite workmanship. The temples of Janus, Minerva, and Pluto are little better than ruins; but they are



Temple de Pluton.

still interesting to those who find a pleasure in inspecting the remains of former times—an inspection which must necessarily, however, give rise to the humiliating reflection, that man's proudest labours must eventually share the fate of all sublunary objects; and the sigh which accompanies this reflection is echoed deeper, when the spectator is thoroughly impressed with the still more solemn truth—that man himself shall die, and his noble frame moulder into dust! But amidst the gloomy chambers of the grave, there spring the brighter prospects

of immortality. The wreck of nature man shall see, but not partake.

The spirit shall return to HIM,
That gave its heavenly spark;
N^ot think not, sun, it shall be dim,
When thou thyself art dark!
No, it shall live again, and shine
In bliss unknown to beams of thine,
By HIM, recalled to breath,
Who captive led captivity,
Who robb'd the grave of victory,
And took the sting from death.—LAST, MAN.

The antiquity of Autun is further proved by the etymology of the names of some of its streets; such as, *Le Marchant*, *Campus Martis*, *Le Montjeu*, *Mons Jovis*; *Mons Dru*, *Mons Druidum*; and the hill *Phulnce*, where Cupid had formerly a temple.

In the fourteenth century, the Burgundians were such rigid observers of the laws, that they were applied to animals. A pig having killed a child at *Chalons-sur-Saône*, he was regularly tried in a court of justice, and condemned to be hanged; and a sow having caused the death of a child by gnawing its chin, the offender was knocked down and killed, and her flesh distributed to the dogs. The proprietor of the lady pig was condemned to go on a pilgrimage to *Noire-Dame-de-Pontoise*, as a penance. Many other instances are recorded of the same nature.

It does not appear that Autun carries on any trade in these times; it is celebrated for by-gone days of prosperity and renown.

Lat. E. 57° 41' 11" lat. 46° 56' 48". Sixty-eight leagues S. E. from Paris.

DEPARTMENT OF AIN.

THIS is a 'frontier' department (E.) It is composed of *La Bresse*, *Bugez*, *Val Romex*, and the principality of *Dombes*.

SOIL.—From the great inequality of the surface, which is divided into high flat lands and mountains, the soil is various; in the plains clay prevails.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Jura* extends from the north-east to the south-west. On the eastern frontier the summits of these

mountains are covered with forests of firs, pines, &c., intermingled with brushwood and barren heaths. A secondary chain, called *Revermont*, traverses the centre; there the vine is cultivated, occupying the lower declivities.

LAKES.—The lake of Nantua is seated in the middle of mountains, 1275 feet above the level of the sea.

RIVERS.—The *Ain* divides the department into nearly two equal parts; it is navigable for a short distance, and this only at high tides. The *Rhone* borders the department, and begins to be navigable at *Parc*. The *Saône* is navigable the whole length of the department on the west. Many other streams of less note intersect the plains or *plateaux*. The *Saône* is conspicuous.

PONDS.—These occupy the *plateaux* of *Bresse-Bressan*, and are 1667 in number. The industry and ingenuity of man have converted the marshes into fertile plains and productive ponds, by constructing dykes from one hill to the other, for the *plateaux* are covered with small hills. When the proprietor of one of these ponds wishes to cultivate it, he draws off the water into the dyke attached to it. Wheat, barley, and oats are then sown, and the seed thus fertilised by the slime, produces a crop double that produced by the land in the vicinity. After the harvest is collected, the water is permitted to return to its former bed, and carp, tench, and roach are then thrown into it. Some of these ponds will support 100,000 of carp, and 100 pounds of little tench and roach. In the course of two years these carp, which weighed only one ounce and a half, will have attained the size of two pounds and a half. The fishing begins in April, and is continued until November. The increase of the fish is as one to five.

MINES.—The iron mines of *Villebois-sous-Belley* are the principal. There are several quarries of marble, free-stone, gypsum, potter's clay, marl, lithographic stones. The bituminous mines of *Seyssel* and *Pyremont* are very productive, and the various grottos filled with stalactites furnish fine specimens of alabaster, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Claude-de-Seyssel Ozanam*, a mathematician; the missionaries *Maillet*, and *Brancin Piquet*; General *Joubert*, the famous astronomer *Lalande*, *Michaud*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Belley. The Protestants have an oratory at Ferney, dependent upon the consistorial church of Lyon.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.—*Bourg, Nantua, Belley, Trévoux, Gese.*

Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of Lyon. It is comprised in the sixth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Bourg is seated on the *Resouse*; it is of very ancient date, for there are, to this day blocks of stone inserted into the walls of the prison, which formerly belonged to a Druidical temple in the neighbourhood. In 408, this department (*Insula Gallica*) was under the dominion of the Romans, since which it has submitted to many masters; in 1600 Henry IV. received it in exchange for the marquisate of *Soluces*, from the duke of Savoy. In 1611, the famous citadel of *Bourg* was destroyed, and nothing now remains worthy of notice but the church of Brou, in its immediate neighbourhood, and the monument it contains of Philibert Duke of Savoy. The life of the Duke of Savoy, Philippe II., being endangered by a fall from his horse, by which he broke his arm, his wife, Margaret of *Bourbon*, made a vow to erect a church and monastery at Brou, near to Bourg, if he recovered. She died before she could accomplish her intentions, but Margaret of Austria, the wife of Philibert III., her son, carried the pious wishes of her mother-in-law into effect. This church is a master-piece of Gothic architecture; its form is that of the *Latin cross*, that is to say, the nave is longer than the transverse. It is 210 feet long; the length of the transverse, 107 feet; the breadth of the choir is 90 feet, and the height 60. The front is composed of no order of architecture in particular, but it consists of an assemblage of rich gothic ornaments and arabesques. The interior is exceedingly rich and grand in its appearance; the stalls of the choir are oak, covered with innumerable designs of figures; the intermedial parts being worked to correspond with the exquisite stone tracery-work which every where ornaments the building. By the side of the altar, in the choir, there are three mausoleums—those of Margaret of Bourbon, of Philibert III., and that of Margaret of Austria, who founded the church. The statue of the latter

is particularly interesting; she indeed takes a conspicuous situation among the political characters of the sixteenth century. She was the daughter of the Emperor Maximilian and of Mary of Burgundy. She was betrothed, at the age of three years, to the dauphin of France, afterwards Charles VIII., but after being many years treated as future queen of that country, she was sent back to her own country, Charles having married Ann of Brittany. She was then betrothed to John of Castile, son of Ferdinand V., King of Arragon; she was just seventeen when she embarked for Spain to complete these nuptials. She was assailed by so violent a tempest in the channel, that it was with difficulty the vessel she was in could be saved. Having at length reached the place of her destination, she was married; but before the end of twelve months she became a widow, and to this misfortune was added the loss of her infant son, born shortly after the death of his father. In 1501 she married Philibert the Handsome, and at the end of three years she again tasted the cup of affliction; for Philibert, at that period, paid the debt of nature. She now directed all her thoughts to the erection of the church of Bourg, and this monument of her husband. Her death was no less remarkable than her life. On the left foot of the alabaster statue in the church of Brou, there is a large scar, of which the archives in the monastery of Brou give the following account, although historical records make no mention of this circumstance. They relate, that Margaret, having been wounded in the heel by a piece of castal, the wound began to mortify, and amputation was deemed necessary. The physicians being willing to spare her the pain of this operation, gave her a dose of opium, which threw her into so profound a sleep, that she never more awoke.

Bourg has been the birth-place of many distinguished characters, and its *Société Savante* was established before the *Académie Française*.

Trévoux is pleasantly seated on the banks of the Saône, in a very fertile country. This town owes its name to one of the great military roads of Agrippa, which branched off three different ways—hence from *Tres Vie*, *Trivium*, and *Trévoux*. There is a particular manufacture carried on here, which has arrived at great perfection, the refining and drawing of gold and silver wire. The art was brought in 1400 by some Jews; gold is drawn into a much smaller thread than a hair, and

though many towns in France, such as Paris and Lyons, have succeeded in imitating this branch of the arts in gold, yet it is at Trevoux alone that silver is drawn into such attenuated threads.

That part of this department called *La Dombes*, is low and marshy, surrounded by high lands. The inhabitants have contrived to collect the waters of these marshes into ponds, which abound with fish; every three years they are dried, and other parts of the marsh are converted into ponds. The soil produces abundantly the third year. The inhabitant of this melancholy country is indeed an object of pity. His walk is languid, his complexion livid, his chest contracted, his eyes heavy, his existence is a state of suffering; he knows not health—his countenance is never irradiated with smiles; at thirty he is old and wrinkled, and at forty or fifty he is decrepit. Familiar with misery, he becomes almost insensible to suffering, and with a calm and composed mind he submits to his fate; never making any effort to ameliorate his own condition, he sees with equal insensibility the beings the most closely allied to him pursue the same weary pilgrimage as himself—without a feeling of regret, and follows them to the grave with the same insensibility!—Can these inanimate suffering beings form any part of the inhabitants of *la belle, la gaie France!* O

— Take physic, pomp;
Expose thyself to feel what wretches feel;
That thou may'st shake the superfluous to them,
{ And show the heavens more just.

It is not a little curious to observe the effect of situation as well as climate upon the human mind and body. The eastern part of this department, which is mountainous, is inhabited by a vigorous and hardy race of beings, compelled by their barren soil to emigrate for subsistence.

FERNEY owes its foundation to *Voltaire*, and here his memory is tenderly cherished. The houses which he planned stood alone, each having a piece of ground attached to it. He was particularly fond of this spot, and intended making *Ferné* a town. He invited many artisans to fix their residence at this place, particularly watchmakers. Very many of the inhabitants of this day pursue this branch of trade industriously and successfully. His house is still shown to travellers with respect;

it has four faces, and the principal front is approached by an avenue; the gardens are very fine. From some of the windows the *Alps* are discerned, and the lake and city of Geneva. The bedchamber of Voltaire is preserved by the present proprietor, with all its furniture, as when he inhabited it. One of the bed-curtains is indeed a little the worse for the thefts that have been committed upon it. The pictures of *D'Alembert* and *Delille* are still suspended on the walls, as well as that of Voltaire, and Frederic the Great of Prussia.

NANTUA is situated between two mountains, on the lake of the same name, which is very abundant in trout. The inhabitants are exceedingly industrious, and carry on a brisk trade in cotton goods, silk, worsted, paper, furs (deer abounding in the neighbouring mountains), leather, and shoes; it is said this town contains sixty master shoemakers, each employing ten workmen. The church of Nantua contains the remains of *Charles-le-Chauve*, who died here on his return from Italy. Many Roman antiquities are continually found in its environs—such as medals, tombs, statues, &c. The air of *Pont d'Ain*, which was formerly so healthy, that the princesses of Savoy brought up their children at the *chateau* built upon an eminence between the *Ain* and the *Surau*, is now at times pestilential. There is a fort not far from this called *Fort Sarrazin*, built by the *Saracens*, who took up their residence at this spot for a short time; and here too the Druids have left monuments of their cruel worship; two vast mounds of earth, covered with lofty and ancient oaks, which have withstood “the storms of wintry time,” and a large block of stone, which covers twelve feet of ground in the neighbourhood, declare that this part of the country was one of their favourite places of resort.

SECTION XXVII.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF ORLÉANNOIS.

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF NIÈVRE, EURE ET LOIR,
LOIR ET CHER, AND LOIRET.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF NIEVRE

THIS is an inland department (centre).

SOIL.—The soil of this department is exceedingly varied, and generally speaking, of an inferior nature. It is principally calcareous and silicious; yet some of the valleys between the mountains are fertile. The masses of basalt which are met with in Le Marais indicate how much it has suffered from volcanic fires.

MOUNTAINS.—The whole of the department is intersected by lofty mountains, from which flow innumerable streams.

FORESTS.—One sixth of the superficies of Nièvre is covered with forests, in which the oak, the beech, the elm, and the hornbeam, hold a conspicuous place.

RIVERS.—This department is intersected by three navigable rivers, viz., the *Loir*, the *Allier*, and the *Yonne*.

CANALS.—Two canals are at this moment in construction.

MINES.—The iron mines of Nièvre are abundant and of an excellent quality; lead, copper, and in a small degree, silver, is found in this department. There are also coal mines, and quarries of freestone proper for making whetstones and crucibles, millstones, and a great variety of coloured marbles.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Saint-Honoré* there are baths of a sulphurous and soap nature. At *Pougues*, the gold baths are charged with carbonic acid, muriatic and carbon of soda, as well as carbon of magnesia, iron, and chalk. They are tonics, and highly stomachic. The *Font bouillant*, at *Parise-le-Château*, resembles those of *Pougues*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES on agriculture, the arts, natural history, &c.

CELEBRATED PERSONS.—*Lamoignon*, *Savory*, *Bourgoing*, *Dupin* the elder, *Dupin* the younger, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic: it forms part of the diocese of *Nèvre*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz.—*Nevers, Château-Chinon, Clamecy, Cosne*. It depends upon the *cour royale* of *Bourges*, and it is comprised in the twenty military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

NEVERS, a large commercial town on the *Loire*, is the capital of this department; it is built in the form of an amphitheatre. A beautiful triumphal arch erected in commemoration of the battle of *Fontenoy*, was very much injured by the heroes of the first revolution. The steeple of the cathedral, the cavalry barracks, and the grand square where the ancient dukes formerly resided, are the only buildings that would call forth an observation from the passer-by. It is the country of *Maître Adame*, poet and joiner, as also of *Ragueneau*, the pastry-cook and poet likewise. The latter sent a sonnet to the former, in which in allusion to their different trades, he says—

*“Avecque plus de bruit tu travailles sans doute,
Mais pour moi, je travaille avecque plus de feu.”*

Nevers, though now insignificant, was a place of so much importance in the time of *Cæsar*, that he left within its walls the Gaulish hostages, his provisions, and his treasure as a place of safety. The steeple of the cathedral and the cavalry barracks are both magnificent of their kind.

Long. $0^{\circ} 49' 16''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 59' 15''$. Fifty-eight leagues south from *Paris*.

LA CHARITÉ derives its name from the charity of the ancient monks of *Clugny*: it is seated on the *Loire*, and can boast of no other attraction. The quay is large and convenient, and here a bridge crosses the river. The walks round it are very beautiful. It manufactures anchors and metal buttons.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF EURE-ET-LOIR

This is an inland department (*centre*), formed of part of ancient *Orléannoise*, and *la Beauce*.

SOIL.—The soil is fertile and produces corn, pasture lands, and fruits. “The vine is cultivated, but it does not attain much perfection.

FORESTS.—The forest of *Dreux*.

RIVERS.—The *Eure* and the *Loir*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Bishop *Godeau*, *Rotron*, whom Voltaire surnamed the founder of the French theatre, and Corneille called his father; *Dulorens*, lawyer; General *Marceau*; poet *Regnier*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. This department forms the diocese of the ancient bishopric of Chartres, founded in the 2nd century: it is dependent upon the Archbishop of Paris. The protestants have one church at Maisanceux, dependent upon the consistorial church of Orleans.

Its judicial administration depends upon the *cour royale* of Paris, and it is comprised in the first military division. This department is divided into four *arrondissements*, viz.:—*Chartres*, *Roget-le-Rotron*, *Chateaudun*, and *Dreux*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CHARTRES. Is situated on the *Eure*, in a fertile plain, it is the ancient *Antricum* of the *Carnutes*, and here the Druids had one of their principal colleges; and as connected with this circumstance it is impossible to pass over a fact recorded by some historians, that at the epoch of the invasion of Julius Cæsar, the *Carnutes* appear to have been already expecting the appearance of the MESSIAH, and that this information was derived from the Druids. Cæsar gives the name of *Lucum Consecratum*, to a little wood, in which the Druidical priests had erected the statue of a virgin, bearing this inscription, *Virgini Paritura*.* But this story of the virgin is likewise thus rendered: a Chartrain nobleman had a divinity in his house representing a woman with a child in her arms, to which he was in the habit of offering sacrifices; and *Geoffroi de Monlhery*, attributing to this idol the cure of one of his children, he erected a temple to its honour. The inhabitants were easily persuaded to embrace a new religion,

* The Commentaries merely say—“once a year they assemble at a consecrated place in the territory of the Carnutes.”—Book vi. ch. 13.

which under a different name permitted their adorations to this their favourite image. The cathedral, in which Henry IV. was crowned, now occupies the site of this temple: it is a beautiful structure, which the munificence of the kings of France, Denmark, and England, contributed to adorn. The two towers and steeples equally attract the admiration of strangers, although their structure is very different. The one constructed in 1145, is of a pyramidal form, and is really very imposing from its vast bulk, rising to the height of 351 feet; the other, which was rebuilt in 1514, presents all the light airy gracefulness of the most highly finished gothic architecture; it is thirty seven feet higher than the pyramidal tower. The interior of the church is remarkable for the beautiful carved chesnut pillars which support it; the roof, the bas-reliefs, the pinnacles richly ornamented with trellis-work, its beautiful colonnade, and, above all, for the groupe representing the assumption of the virgin which decorates the choir. The choir of the church of *Saint André* is erected upon an arch under which flows the Eure! Vauban looked upon this choir as a most wonderful construction, and as a model, the boldness of which was calculated to excite the admiration and respect of posterity. Alas! this masterpiece of genius is now sinking into decay.

The town of *Chartres* is divided into two parts; the old town, which is placed on the declivity of a hill, is anything but agreeable, but the lower town has some claims to attraction, though the streets are many of them narrow and confined. The houses have an unusual number of windows.

The inhabitants of *Chartres* are renowned for their pastry, an art which they derive from the *Cappadocians*, who it seems were excellent pastry-cooks! Some of the traditions of *Chartres* carry back the antiquity of the town to a colony of Gomerites who arrived thither in the time of Noah!

The trade of *Chartres* consists in wine, wheat, serges, &c.

Long. W. $0^{\circ} 50' 55''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 26' 54''$. Twenty-five leagues S.S.E. from Paris, ten posts and three quarters.

DREUX, the ancient *Droctum* of the *Durocasses* under the Romans, is seated on the *Blaise*, at the foot of a mountain. This town has no monument of antiquity except an old castle, built by nobody knows whom, upon the summit of a hill which commands the town. It is, however, supposed to have been greeted

by Clodion, who built it and the walls of the town, to replace those which were in his days in a state of dilapidation from old age, so that Dreux has no small claims to antiquity. It was a place of considerable importance among the Druids, who held their horrid orgies in the vast forest that still remains in its neighbourhood. Here they had a college, and here they sacrificed human victims to their chief deity, *Tentalis* (their Jupiter).

3.—DEPARTMENT OF LOIR ET CHER.

This is an ancient department (centre) formed of a portion of ancient *Orléans-vois*.

SOIL.—The face of the country is flat and monotonous. Some parts are covered with smiling harvests, but in the south-east it is covered with extensive heaths and marshes. Its pasture lands north of the Loire are rich.

FORESTS.—These are considerable and lucrative.

RIVERS.—The principal of these are the *Loire*, the *Loir*, *Cher*, *Cosson*, and *Beuron*.

MINES.—These consist of iron, and there are here found abundance of flint stones.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Francis I.*, his daughter *Claude*, *Pierre Mârsin*, *Viguiér*, *Bernier*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. This department is the see of a bishop, dependent upon the archbishop of Paris.

The protestants have a church at Aulnay dependent upon the consistorial church of Orléans, and also two temples.

This department is divided into three *arrondissements*, viz.—*Blois*, *Vendôme*, and *Romgrainin*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

BLOIS.—Situated upon the *Loir*, on the side of a hill, rises like a vast amphitheatre, formed by the roofs of the houses, the benches of which appear to be perfect. The castle which surmounts the amphitheatre, is worthy of having been the dwelling-place of many kings: it is of a mingled architecture, Louis XIII. was the last monarch who embellished it, as the beautiful façade, the work of *Mansard*, which looks to the east, is a splendid monument of his genius. The northern front, with its small painted windows and its gothic ornaments, were erected in

the time of Francis I. This monarch, in reconstructing one part of the castle, preserved the ancient *Châtel de Gelo*, in which Louis XII., styled *the father of his people*, received birth. The castle at first sight appears to consist of two distinct buildings: but it is united by a passage cut in the rock. The court before that part built by the Duke of Orleans in 1632, is exceedingly large, and was formerly used for tournaments: the church of St. Saviour stands on one side of it. In this fine building there is a gallery remarkable for its length, and for the superb specimens of the fine arts it contains. The castle formerly stood between two gardens, the one of fruit trees, and the other ornamented with pastures, fountains, cascades, and marble statues brought from Italy. Such at least was the case previous to the revolution of 1793. Not a vestige, however, now remains of the numerous plants which the Duke of Orleans collected from all parts of the world and planted in these gardens. But the paintings, copied from them on vellum by his orders, still exist and have been considerably augmented under the name of *Hortus Blesensis*. The statue of Louis XII. was likewise torn by the fanatic mob from the portico where it stood, and trampled under foot. The hall is still to be seen in which Henri III. convoked the states in order to draw the Duke of Guise from Paris: in this *chambre noire*, the Janner was basely assassinated; and in the tower called *Chateau Regnord*,* the Cardinal met with the same untoward fate. *Anne de Bretagne*, *Queen Claude*, *Catherine de Medici*, and *Marie*, widow of John Sobieski, King of Poland, all died in this castle.

The bridge of Blois was constructed A. D. 1717, in order to replace one which the ice had carried away; its breadth is forty-two feet, its length 930. There is a pyramid erected upon the middle arches 100 feet high, which is considered highly ornamental, but has more substantial claims to admiration, as it is a proof of the solidity of the structure of the bridge. Indeed this bridge in 1788 resisted the pressure of a block of ice which had accumulated until it was on a level with its height; besides which, from 1793 until 1805, it remained deprived of one of its arches, which a daring hand removed without at all affecting the

* *Chateau Regnord*, so called because the lordship of that name may be discovered from it, though at the distance of twenty miles.

safety of the bridge. On this bridge *La Fontaine* made the following pretty lines:—

Ce n'est pas petite gloire,
Que d'être pont sur la Loire.
On voit à ses pieds rouler
La plus belle des rivières
Que de ces vastes carrières,
Phébus regarde couler.

The *Hotel-de-Ville* of *Blois* is a tolerable building; it stands in a street which terminates at the quay, where there is a public walk commanding a fine view, from an eminence called *Butte des Capucins*; the *Chateau d'Onzain* on the *Cesse* may be distinctly seen; it was here *Catherine de Medici* ordered the *Prince de Condé* to be confined: not far from this spot is the village of *Orchaize*, celebrated for its beautiful grotto; celebrated in its turn for having served as a granary to Julius Cæsar, and as a wine-cellar to Philippe Auguste.

The territory of *Blois* produces corn, wine, cattle, abundance of game, and its waters abound with fish. The meadows are proverbially rich, and the milk and butter are consequently excellent. About a league from the town there are mineral springs. The trade of *Blois* is chiefly in wine and brandy, serges and stuffs. The French spoken at *Blois* is considered very pure, and the inhabitants are accounted witty and polite.

Long. W. $59^{\circ} 59''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 35' 20''$. Forty-two leagues south-west from Paris, twenty-one posts and three-quarters:

4.—DEPARTMENT OF LOIRET.

LOIRET is an inland department (centre) formed of *Orléannois Proper* and *Berry*.

SOIL.—The soil may be divided into two distinct characters; that north of the Loire is rich, and in high cultivation, presenting an agreeable variety of hill and dale, covered with luxuriant corn-fields, orchards, and vineyards; but on the southern side of the river, generally speaking, the country is uncultivated and marshy, intersected by stagnant waters. It has indeed a most barren prospect, dull, and unenlivened by any vegetable pro-

duction, except at certain seasons of the year, when the yellow broom is in blossom, and the pink campignals enliven the heath with its beautiful blossoms.

RIVERS.—Numerous rivers water this department, and among these the *Loire*, *Loiret*, *Essone*, *Vermisson*, &c. are the chief.

CANALS.—Three navigable canals traverse the *Loiret*.

MINES.—There are but few mineral productions in the *Loiret*: antimony, lime-stone, free-stone, are found in some parts, and near *Orléans*. Those coloured crystals called *diamants d'Olivet*, abound. They sometimes resemble the ruby, emerald, sapphire, topaz, &c.; and when well cut and set, they are very brilliant. One of the curates of *Olivet*, previous to the revolution, had adorned the tabernacle with a coronet composed of these stones, which was greatly admired for its splendour.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Segray* there is an establishment of baths—the waters are cold, and impregnated with sulphate of iron, magnesia, and lime; and there are acidulated ferruginous springs at *Saint-Goudon*, *Noyers*, *Ferrières*, *Chateauf-neuf*, and *Beaugency*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c. — There are royal societies of belles-lettres and sciences; free-schools for drawing, architecture, &c.; museum of pictures, sculpture, and antiquities of natural history, and a botanic garden.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Admiral *Coligny*, Marshal *Coligny*, the family of *Courtenay*, Madame *Mont-Guyon*, *Manuel*, member of the Convention; the unfortunate *Montgomery*, who killed Henry II. in a joust.—*Huc de Miromenil*, keeper of the seals, who abolished the use of torture for confession, &c.; and in earlier times, *Jean Clopirel*, and *Guillaume Le Lorris*, author of the romance of the *Rose*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Orléans*. The Protestants of the département have at *Orléans* a consistorial church, upon which depend two churches and four chapels or temples; they have likewise four bible societies, two societies for evangelical missions, two of religious tracts, and five protestant schools.

Its judicial government depends upon the *cours royale* of *Orléans*, and it forms part of the first military division.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz. *Orléans*, *Montargis*, *Pithiviers*, and *Gien*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ORLÉANS, anciently *Genabum*, changed by the Emperor Aurelian to *Aurelianum*, is a large city, the ancient capital of Orléannois, situated on the right bank of the Loire, over which is an elegant bridge of nine arches, the entrance to which is through a noble street of modern buildings called *Rue Royale*; with the exception of this street, the houses are however meanly built. The cathedral is a superb gothic structure, and had the finest steeple in France until it was damaged in the civil wars. In the square of *Martray* there is a fine bronze statue erected to the memory of Joan of Arc. Charles VII., in 1458, had erected a monument more suitable to the genius of the fifteenth century, in which the effigy of that monarch was represented on its knees, and by his side that of the maid of Orléans in the same position, before a figure of the Virgin, having a dead Saviour on her lap; the king was beheaded, and by him lies his helmet, surmounted by a crown. The whole monument was of iron. In the *Hotel de Ville* is a portrait of this celebrated woman, in which she is represented as a beautiful girl; though the face is rather too long, the countenance is very intelligent. Her hair falls loosely down her back, and she wears on her head a sort of bonnet enriched with pearls, and shaded with white plumes tied under her chin with a string. About her neck is a little collar, and lower down, upon her bosom, a necklace composed of small links. Her dress, which is that of a woman, I find it difficult exactly to describe. It sits close to the body, and is cut or slashed at the arms and elbows; round her waist is an embroidered girdle, and in her right hand she holds the sword with which she expelled the enemies of her sovereign and her country. Orléans was burnt by Julius Cæsar; the Goths laid siege to it but was unsuccessful; it was twice ravaged by the Normans, and in 1428 the English were driven from its walls by the gallant Joan of Arc. In the religious wars, in the wars of the revolution, it has likewise suffered much. The public library, the theatre, the *mail*, a public walk, are all worthy of notice. The walks in its neighbourhood are very beautiful; and the forest, which is the largest in France, which formerly belonged to the Duke of Orléans, to whom it has probably returned in the person of Louis Philippe;

the timber it produced, one year with another, amounted to the sum of 100,000 livres. Ever since the year 1344, this city has been a dukedom, generally attached to some prince of the blood. Louis XIV. gave it to his own brother Philip, who began and finished the canal of Orléans; the duties of which produced a revenue of 150,000 livres annually. The environs of Orléans, more especially in the province of Sologne, to the south of the Loire, are very fine. It is in general a level country, consisting of corn-fields and vineyards. Orléans is surrounded by walls, and fortified by forty towers. It carries on a great trade in wines, brandy, spices, vinegars, saffron, flowers, &c. It also contains some sugar refineries, and manufactories of hats, wool, china, painted cloths, blankets, serges, papers for rooms, earthenware, pins, and starch.

Long. W. 25° 32'; lat. 47° 54' 4". Twenty-eight leagues south of Paris, fourteen posts and three-quarters.

MEURG.—There was formerly in the church of *Notre-Dame de Cléry*, a superb tomb and a statue in white marble of Louis XI., the work of the celebrated sculptor of Orleans, Michel Bourdin. Alas! how melancholy it is to recite the frailties and vices of human kind, particularly when allied to talent! This unfortunate artist was hung at Cléry for having stolen a silver lamp out of this very church, which he had enriched with the fruits of his genius and labour! Knowledge and talents, unless accompanied by principles of virtue, are but stumbling blocks to many of those, to whom the world looks up as to beings of superior order.

In the suburb of *Olivet* is the *Chateau de la Source*, so much embellished by Lord Bolingbroke, and subsequently, by M. M. *Boutin*. At the foot of the terrace, in the gardens, issues the Loiret; it is as large at its source as its mouth; and it possesses the singular property of never freezing, and consequently the mills erected on its banks continue to go when those on the Loire are interrupted by the frost. This river abounds with every kind of fish. A small river, called the *Hui*, or the *Duis*, also rises at no great distance. Its waters, which are thick and muddy, are lost in an immense gulf, called *La Gêtre*, mingling its waters with the little stream at the bottom. It is said that a diver plunged into this gulf in search of a silver cup, which he found, but he could not be persuaded to descend a second time,

for fear of being carried away by the currents which escaped through the numerous cavities around. Sully, on the death of his master, Henry IV., retired to his chateau in this neighbourhood.

MONTARGIS was formerly as healthy as it is now unhealthy, and this change is produced by the proximity of the canal of *Briare*.

— Of the dog of Montargis the following are the facts collected from *Le Théâtre d'Honneur et de Chevalerie de la Colombière*, tom. ii. page 300, chap. xxiii. The Chevalier *Macaire* and *Aubrey de Montdidier*, were companions as archers at the court of Charles V. King of France; the former, jealous of the favour shown by the king to Montdidier, way-laid, assassinated, and then buried him in the forest of Bondy. A dog attached to Montdidier was the only spectator of this murder; the faithful animal remained stretched on the grave of his master, until hunger compelled him to seek for food. He repaired to Paris, and his hunger satisfied, he hastened back to the forest. A repetition of this conduct excited curiosity—he was followed—the body consequently discovered, and committed to consecrated earth. The dog then took his abode with a relation of his master, to whom he attached himself. One day that he was following his new master, he espied the assassin of Montdidier,—he rushed upon him, and caught him by the throat, and Macaire was with difficulty released from his grasp. Whenever he met this man, he became infuriated, always attacking him violently; and at length the circumstances were related to the king, who commanded that Macaire should be mingled one day with his gentlemen, and the dog admitted. The dog instantly recognised the murderer, and flew upon him as usual. The consequence of this repeated and singular attack induced the king to question the murderer, who firmly maintained his innocence. Suspicions, however, were too strongly excited against him to permit his release, and he was condemned to undergo an appeal to what was called “the judgment of God”—that is to say, by single combat with his adversary, the dog. Preparations having been completed for the accommodation of the king and his court, the gentleman appeared in the arena armed with a great club. The dog had a ~~dog~~ open at both ends as a place of his retreat. As soon as the animal was let loose, he rushed

at his antagonist, who, with a blow from his club, struck him to the ground. When he recovered, he ran round and round to avoid another blow; and at length, watching his opportunity made a successful spring at the throat of Macaire, who, calling out for mercy, promised to confess every thing if he were released from the dog.

"Ce duel," ajoute Montfaucon, "se fit l'an 1571. Le meurtrier était réellement le Chevalier Macaire, et la victime s'appeloit Aubry de Montdidier. Macaire fut envoyé au gibet, suivant des mémoires envoyés à Montargis."

The castle of Montargis is no longer in existence. It formerly contained a chimney-piece, upon which were sculptured the adventures of this dog.

To the right of *Montargis* is *Chatillon-sur-Loire*, which has obtained much renown from the singular defence made by the inhabitants against Charles IX.; who, without other arms than stones flung by the men, and boiling water thrown by the women, compelled the king to quit the environs of the city.

The inhabitants of the southern banks of the Rhone, in *La Sologne*, are simple, yet laborious and intelligent, though they preserve many of their ancient customs and superstitions; some of them shall be detailed.

On the celebration of a wedding; the bridegroom, on placing the ring on his bride's finger, pushes it on as far as possible, for the very wise reason, that, if he did not do this, the lady would in future rule the roost; during the ceremony they each hold a wax taper, the consummation of which is eagerly watched, for he or she will die before the other, whose taper has most diminished during the ceremony. But the married pair have another and more painful trial to undergo during the celebration of the nuptial mass: they are pricked by their friends, even so as to draw blood, in order to discover which will be the most jealous; but the writer, from which these extracts are made, does not explain upon what this judgment is founded. The fêtes on these occasions last several days, when the whole hamlet is invited to partake of the nuptial fare, which is homely in kind, but abundant in quantity. On the day succeeding the wedding, a collection is made for the newly-married couple: this is done in various ways; sometimes the *filles d'honneur* (bridesmaids probably) take the nosegay from the bride, and

going through many evolutions of the mazy dance, address in turn all the guests assembled, and endeavour to excite their generosity. Sometimes a procession of five peasant girls, dressed all in their best, undertake the office of caterer. The first holds a distaff and spindle in her hand, which she presents to every one of the visitors, chanting at the same time the following lines :

L'Épousée a bien quenouille et fuseau,
Mais de chanvre, hélas ! pas un echeveau.
Pourra-t-elle donc filer son trousseau ?”*

The second girl receives the offerings in the bride's goblet ; the third presents drink to the generous giver, the fourth wipes his mouth with a napkin, and the fifth, generally the prettiest girl, embraces him, in token of their joint gratitude.

The last day of the wedding is marked by a whimsical ceremony. A vessel of sand is placed at the end of a pole ; the peasants are then blindfolded, and successively advance to strike at it ; this they must break at one blow ; the fortunate performer of this feat has a right to kiss the bride ; but if he do not quickly succeed in his attempts for this purpose, he is placed on a leafy throne, and compelled to seem to drink with every one who advances to pledge him, with an empty glass ; here he remains until he can touch the glass of one of the guests, who then takes his place.

On the first Sunday after the wedding, the sacristan brings the bride an uncovered distaff, upon which she winds a spun thread, and presents it as an offering to the church. The godfather or godmother, on these occasions, makes a present to their godchild of a tea-spoon and a water-jug, or some other useful utensil. This gift is called *gochelin*. The *Solonais* have also another curious custom on the first Sunday in Lent : the peasants, bearing lighted tapers, pursue each other over the arable fields, singing this satirical strophe :

Sortez, sortez d'ici mulots !
Ou je vais vous bruler les crocs !

* * Which may be translated thus :—The bride has distaff and spindle, but not a skein of hemp—how then can she spin her clothes ?

Quitter, quittez ces blés
Allez vous trouver.

Dans la cave du curé
Plus à boire qu'à manger."

In the evening they all assemble to eat, what they call *mi*, broth made of millet. Every one is expected to bring a root of the nigella (*lychnis agrostemma githago* of *Linnaeus*), a plant which grows in furrowed land, and which is highly injurious to the corn.

SECTION XXVIII

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF MAINE,
CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF MAYENNE AND SARTHE.

1.—DEPARTMENT OF MAYENNE.

THIS is an inland department (W.) composed of a portion of the ancient province of *Maine* and *Anjou*.

SOIL.—The surface of this department is level, the soil in many parts highly productive; but in others the soil is light and sandy, and incapable of producing grain.

RIVERS.—The *Orne*, *Sarthe*, *Maine*, and *Loire*, are the principal.

MINES.—Iron is found in some places, and there are two forges near *Mayenne*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Ambrôise de Lorré*, *Taron*, *La Frère*, the translator of Eusebius, *Rivault*, commentator of Archimedes, *Rigol*, *Duvouil*, translator of Petrarch, and *Vblney*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the bishopric of *Mans*.

Its judicial administration depends upon the *Cour Royale* of *Angers*; it is comprised in the fourth military division.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. :—*Laval*, *Mayenne*, and *Chateau Gonthier*.

• Begone, begone, field mice, I will trip up your legs; quit, quit this corn.—So, you will find in the wine-cellar of the curate more to drink than to eat.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LAVAL is a very inferior town seated on the *Mayenne*; the houses are old and ill-built, and the streets dirty and narrow; it possesses two castles; that of *Chateau-neuf* is the most remarkable. The prosperity of *Laval* arises from its manufacture of linen-cloth, for which the inhabitants are indebted to *Guy-de-Laval*, one of their lords, who married *Beatrix* of *Flanders*: he invited many of the Flemish artisans to repair to *Laval*, provided them with house and home, and set up many looms. The inhabitants directed their whole attention to this object of commerce, and having discovered the art of bleaching their cloths, they soon excelled their teachers, the Flemings. The linen-hall is worthy of notice. The manufacturers carry on their work in cellars; in the day-time the streets are quite lonely, but on Sundays and holidays a numerous population issues all at once from its subterraneous apartments.

Long. W. $3^{\circ} 9'$; lat. $48^{\circ} 1'$. Sixty-four leagues from Paris, seventy-five posts.

MAYENNE is a pretty well-peopled town; it is also celebrated for its linen, thread, and handkerchiefs. Its territory produces hemp, flax, grain, cattle, and timber.

The inhabitants of this department are exceedingly charitable. If one poor person meets another who appears fatigued, he is invited to rest himself, and the rye bread is offered and accepted with a spirit equally frank and amiable.

Near the village of *Aron* there is an old tower, the solitary remains of an ancient castle which time and revolutions have annihilated. But still tradition has preserved the following anecdote, and the following beautiful verse. One of the lords of *Aron* was so remarkably fond of fish that he compelled all those who passed at the foot of the tower, to repeat the following lines at the highest pitch of their voice, and that at three distinct times:—

Monseigneur d'Aron,
Voulez-vous de mon poisson?

The fish-loving seigneur then descended, and having selected a sufficient quantity of aquatic provisions, his neighbours had free permission to make their purchases of such fish as he rejected.

Not far from *Crœon* are the caves of *Margot*; called likewise grottos of *Saugé*: these grottos are composed of several apartments, the roofs of which are formed by rocks so torn and split that they seem to threaten the daring visitor with ruin: the floor, too, is full of deep crevices of immense depth. The *Mayenne* flows between the two rocks in which they are situated.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF SARTHE.

The department of *La Sarthe* is inland (N.W.); it is composed of *Haut Maine*, and a portion of *Anjou* and of *Perche*.

SOIL.—The soil of this department is exceedingly varied. It consists of fertile valleys and sterile heaths. The earth possesses, indeed, six different qualities, granitic, schistic, sandy, clayey, calcareous, and shiny. It contains some good arable and pasture land, and in some parts the vine is cultivated with success. The rest is covered with forests or surrounded by heaths.

MOUNTAINS.—The chains of hills which form boundaries to the rivers, can scarcely be called mountains; yet in the north-west of the department they rise to a height that would almost procure them that title, and their substance being of rock crystal, jasper, granite, &c. almost entitle them to the distinguishing character of primitive rocks.

RIVERS.—Among the numerous rivers which water this department, two alone are navigable, the *Sarthe* and the *Loir*.

MINES.—The iron from the mines of *Roux* possesses some remarkable qualities; it is not attracted by the loadstones. In the neighbourhood of these mines several oxydes are found; red ochre, and yellow ochre. Quarries of free-stone, marble, slate, mill-stone, calcareous stone, sandy stone, &c. Marl and clay, in which are found sienna and umber earths; coal-mines, fossil amber, rock crystal, kaoli, &c. &c.

SALT WATERS.—In the environs of *Suzé* there are several springs containing muriate of soda. In summer, the sand upon which these waters flow, deposits a white bitter salt.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—A royal society of agriculture, of science and arts, of physic, &c. a museum of mineralogy and a museum of natural history.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The *Marechal de Brissac*, who distinguished himself at the siege of *Sandrevignes*, besieged by the

Emperor Charles V. and defeated the Duke of Alva, and Ferdinand di Gonzagues in Italy; the four brothers, *Du Bellay*; *Jean du Bellay*, a poet; *Germain Pillon*, a fine sculptor, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Mans*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz:—*Le Mans*, *Mamers*, *Saint Calais*, *La Flèche*. Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Angers*: it is comprised in the fourteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LE MANS is seated upon a hill at the confluence of the rivers *Sarthe* and *Huisne*, in a delightful country: it is the ancient *Cenomanum* mentioned by Titus Livy, who speaks of its inhabitants as a brave, dauntless race, much distinguished among the Gauls: they were among the first to invade Italy, and founded Verona, Milan, Padua, and Bresse. When Hannibal had defeated the Romans commanded by Sempronius, the *Manceaux* retained their fidelity, and bravely resisted the Carthaginians. Some few remains of antiquity are still to be seen in the neighbourhood, but they are hardly worth mentioning, having crumbled away until walls and ruined heaps are all that record the existence of former magnificence. It has suffered much during the foreign and civil wars to which the continent of Europe has been subject for so many centuries, and in consequence of these troubles the cathedral was six hundred years building! It is a fine gothic structure. The *Hotel de la Préfecture*, formerly the Benedictine convent of *La Couture*, remarkable for its fine stone staircase; the Palais of Justice, which was, before the revolution, the convent of *La Visitation*; the barracks of *St. Vincent*, the markets, the theatre, and the walks, are all worthy of notice. There are some few pretty private houses, but not many, and the streets are not very regular nor well-built.

It has manufactures of lace, soap, and coverlids; and its trade consists of wax, stuffs, and chickens, which are greatly admired for their delicacy.

Long. W. $2^{\circ} 8' 11''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 0' 35''$. Forty-five leagues west by south, from Paris, twenty-five posts and a quarter.

MAMERS contains no one object of interest; in former times it figured among the victims of those wars which so often desolated this part of France.

Saint Calais is surrounded by forests and heaths; its inhabitants are industrious, laborious, and economical to excess.

• LA FLÈCHE.—The most interesting objects in this town, are a castle given by Henry IV. to the *Marquis of Farenne*, and the college founded by the same monarch. This edifice is very extensive, and its compartments form five great courts: it is capable of containing 600 pupils. Independently of the halls reserved for study, and the public library, it also contains a gallery of pictures, an infirmary, a riding-school, large pieces of water for bathing and swimming, a tennis-court, fountains of water, a park for the boarders, and a park open to the public, green-houses, &c. &c. This school, which was destined by its founder for the education of young gentlemen, possessed an annual revenue of 100,000 francs, and was placed under the direction of Jesuits. At present children of all ranks are admitted, and the Jesuits are replaced by men who have distinguished themselves in the service of the state, and by men of science. Speaking of this town, *Gresset* says, it possesses

Un climat assez agréable,
De petits bois assez mignons,
Un petit vin assez potable,
De petits concerts assez bons;
• Un petit monde assez passable.

It is a place of no trade: the inhabitants are lively, but not distinguished for any particular talent.

Long. W. 2° 28': lat. 47° 42'.

SECTION XXIX.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF TOURAINE,

CONTAINING

THE DÉPARTEMENT OF INDRE ET LOIRE.

THIS is an inland department (W.), formed principally of *La Touraine* and some fractions of *Orléannois*, *Anjou*, and *Poitou*.

SOIL.—In the north the earth is silicious, and easy of culture—it produces rye, barley, millet, *haricots*, and wood; some parts produce wheat and fruits, among which is the vine, in perfection. Other parts, particularly *Breune*, are damp, cold, and marshy. It contains no mountains, properly speaking. The hill which runs along the *Loire*, from *Amboise* to *Tours*, is formed of a soft sandy stone, which becomes hard by exposure to the air; many of the peasantry in its vicinity have excavated the edges of the hill, and constructed comfortable habitations, and the more wealthy have converted the same kind of excavations into magazines or store-houses.

FORESTS.—These occupy one-tenth of the surface of the department—those of *Chateau Renault*, *Beaumont-la-Rome*, and of *Chateau-la-Vallière*, are the principal. They consist chiefly of the oak, the beech, and the birch; in some parts there are plantations of the chesnuts.

RIVERS.—This department is watered by a great number of rivers and streams; the *Loire*, the *Cher*, and the *Vienne* are alone navigable naturally; the *Creuse* is partly so by means of art. One branch of the *Canal de Berry*, which joins the *Cher* to the *Loire*, passes through it.

MINES.—Iron is found in many parts, and in the canton of *Saint-Maure* there is a copper mine mixed with silver and tin, but it is not worked. A calcareous stone prevails throughout the department—sand-stone, potters' clay, chalk, pipe-clay, lithographic stones, mill-stones, and silicious sand, are found in many parts.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, depending upon the diocese of *Tours*.

LEARNED SOCIETIES, &c. — These are numerous, consisting of societies of agriculture, sciences, arts, and *belles-lettres*, a medical society, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS. — Pope *Martin IV.*; Charles *VIII.* of France; Generals *Menou*, *Marescot*, *Rapin*, the poet *Des-touches*, *Semblançay*, *Rabelais*, *Descartes*, *Duchesne*, *La Marquise de Terandiere*, poet; *Agnes Sorel*, *Gabrielle d'Estres*, *La Vallière*, &c.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. *Tours*, *Chions*, *Loches*.

Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Orléans*. It is comprised in the fourth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Tours is a large, handsome, and rich town, seated in the middle of a fertile plain, watered by the *Loire* and the *Cher*. Few parts of France are more beautiful than this; it has indeed been appropriately styled the garden of France. The houses of *Tours* are built of white stone, having slate roofs; at the extremity of the *promenade du mail* is the *rue royale*. This is a handsome street, wide, long, and straight, having excellent *travertins* on each side of it. Although the houses are not of a regular height, yet the effect is by no means displeasing; the view of one of the finest bridges in France over the *Loire*, and beyond this the rising road of *Chateau Renard*, form together a most beautiful and picturesque object. The cathedral church of *Saint-Gratian* is the only building in *Tours* which claims particular notice. It is a most elegant structure of gothic architecture, rich in all the minutia of carved work, of the most delicate execution, and richest designs. The lightness of its roofs, or ceilings rather—the two lofty towers, which ornament its front, and the exquisite work of the rose window over the portal, are not to be surpassed by those of any other cathedral in France. *Saint Gregory of Tours*, as the name declares, was bishop of this place. In the early ages of Christianity, the successive bishops of *Dol* and *Tours* carried on a law-suit during four hundred years, which cost 3,000,000 of francs! The chapter of *Dol* at length sunk under the superior influence of that

of Tours, and the sentence which condemned them began thus:—

‘Doleat dolensis, et gaudcat Turonensis.’

What was the loss of three millions of money compared to such an affront!

In vain may the curious researcher after antiquities inquire for the once celebrated church of *Saint-Martin*. Alas! the remains of its former splendour—its wealth, its sanctified ceremonies, its venerable tombs, are all alike swept away—they live only in the records of past times. After having been seven times destroyed by fire and rebuilt, it was plundered, pillaged, and destroyed in the revolution of 1793; and in 1797 the ruined walls gave way, and fell in one common heap. *Saint Martin* having been buried at a short distance from *Tours*, then *Urbs Turones*, this church was erected over his tomb, and as it was much frequented and patronised by several kings and queens of France, a town insensibly arose around it, which was called Martinople. In the sequel these two towns met, and formed one city. The church, among other treasures of immense value, contained, in the sixteenth century, a silver grating, which surrounded the tomb of the saint. In 1552, the Huguenots transported this grating to Orleans: the reformers were consequently no favourites at Tours; and the word Huguenots is said to have been first given to them in that city, in consequence of a certain *evil spirit* which set out every night from the old tower of the deceased King *Hugon*, and paraded the streets, to the terror and annoyance of all the inhabitants. The fact is, that it was in the tower of *Hugon* that the Protestants met, to perform their religious rites and to take into consideration the dangers of their situation, and the means of providing against them. As they were compelled to assemble with secrecy, they generally chose the night for their meetings, as being most suitable to their exigencies, and hence arose the legend above recited. Tours formerly possessed a tower built by Gratian; indeed, several Roman emperors resided in this city, but no remains of their palaces are to be seen; except the *Tour de Guise*, which derives its name from the imprisonment of the duke of that name. It was here that Louis XI. expired. He had greatly promoted the prosperity of Tours, by sending for silk weavers from Greece and

Italy, in the year 1470, and the silks of Tours are rivals with those of Lyons and Nîmes. The white wines of *Vouvray* are also an object of careful culture, and the plums of Tours are considered a delicacy worthy of appearing at the most sumptuous winter dessert. The inhabitants of this part of France are much indebted to *Richard-Cœur-de-Lion*, for their wines; but it is a matter of doubt if his contemporaries much admired the precautions he took and the laws he made for their preservation. In 1775, he passed a decree, by which every person convicted of having plucked a bunch of grapes was condemned to lose an ear, or pay a fine of *five-pence*.

Tours is a very commercial town; its silk, damasks, handkerchiefs, ribbons, stuffs, serges, wine, pottery, &c., are thriving manufactures. Its territory produces corn, wine, oil, beans, aniseed, coriander seed, &c. Many beautiful country-houses, surrounded with gardens, are likewise to be seen in its environs.

Long. W. $1^{\circ} 32' 28''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 23' 44''$. Fifty-seven leagues south of Paris.

Among the natural curiosities of this department, are an intermitting fountain, and petrifying waters, which not only convert into stone every piece of wood, and wood only, placed within their power, but tinge them with different colours, such as brown and yellow, red and purple, each wood preserving its distinctive character. A fountain in the neighbourhood of *Jouy* encrusts all the plants that grow within it with a beautiful white, fummy substance.

AMBOISE, situated on the left bank of the *Loire*, is an ancient town, its foundation being attributed to the Romans; but it is an ill-constructed and dull place, being seated at the foot of the rock on which stands the castle, and, extending along the ravine at its foot, contains nothing curious or interesting. The *chateau d'Amboise* is an immense mass of buildings, begun under *Hugues Capet*, and finished under *Charles VII.* During the revolution, *Roger Ducas* had a great part of it pulled down; it underwent, however, some new modification; it covers a square space of the rock, cut perpendicularly towards the river; the door of the castle on this side is the best preserved. At the opposite corner are two enormous towers, in the interior of which there is a winding staircase, by which carriages can ascend to the top of these towers. There is a beautiful octa-

gonal chapel, situated at the corner of an esplanade, and at the top of the entrance is a fine bas-relief, in marble, beautifully executed, representing the *Chasse de Saint Hubert*. The platform is covered with ancient ruins, pleasure-grounds, terraces, woods, and the rock has a number of subterraneous passages, forming a fearful and almost inextricable labyrinth. At the foot of the rock there are spacious vaults, supposed to have been excavated by the Romans; they form excellent cellars for wines. The view of the Loire and its magnificent valley, from this castle, is very fine; the steeples of the cathedral of *Tours* are distinctly seen, though at the distance of six leagues. There is a large island facing Amboise, surrounded by poplars, which constitutes one of the faubourgs, and communicates to the town by an old stone bridge. A fine wooden bridge, supported by stone arches, built in 1822, connects it with another small suburb, situated on the right bank. Amboise has a manufactory of steel.

Long. W. $1^{\circ} 21'$; lat. $47^{\circ} 23'$. Fifty-two leagues south-west of Paris.

SECTION XXX.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF BERRY,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF INDRE AND CHER.

I.—DEPARTMENT OF INDRE.

THIS is an inland département (Centre) composed of part of Berri. Its soil and productions resemble those of *Cher*.

RIVERS.—*Loire, Cher, Indre, and Vienne*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Cardinal *Othon*, Comte *Bertrand*, anatomist *Meri*, the unfortunate *Vatan*, and *Baron*, the father of oratory in France.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Bourges*, and depending upon the *cour royale* of *Bourges*; it is comprised in the twenty-first military division.

The department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz. *Chateauroux, Issoudun, La Chartre, and Le Blanc*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CHATEAU-ROUX.—This is by no means an agreeable town, but it is very ancient; it derives its name from one of the Counts *de Deal*, named *Raoul*, who built here a castle, *Chateau-Raoul*. It is situated on a beautiful plain on the *Indre*, and contains no one object of interest, although the chief place in the department, and consequently the seat of a prefecture. The iron collected in its neighbourhood is much esteemed.

Long. $0^{\circ} 39'$; lat. $46^{\circ} 48' 45''$. Sixty-three leagues south-west of Paris. Thirty-two posts and a half.

Argenton is divided by the *Creuse* into the upper and lower town; it was anciently a formidable place, possessing an old castle flanked by ten towers. One of these, called *Braclei*, bore the following inscription, in very large letters:—*VENI VICI*. Louis XIV. demolished this presumptuous tower, and *Argenton* presents no danger to the peaceful traveller, except that which arises from the descent of a fearfully steep hill that leads into the town. The road from this place to *Blanc* is ten leagues long, and it is covered with enormous round stones, which, rolling from beneath the feet of both horse and man, threaten every moment to break the knees of the one, and the neck of the other. Upon arriving at *Blanc*, the traveller encounters fresh perils from the ruggedness of the pavement, which a French author thus describes:—"Figure toi voir, dans le pavé du Blanc, un plan en relief ou des Pyrénées, ou des Alpes." The carriages and carts, drawn by oxen, leap over these points, if they chance to go beyond the reach of the power of wheels, and rumble over them with a tremendous noise, when they can make a regular course on their summits. The steepness of the ascent adds not a little to the difficulty of reaching the middle of the town, where the ground is flat, and in rainy weather muddy. Some parts of the adjacent country are marshy and intersected by many ponds, which are full of fish; that called *la Mer Rouge*, is the largest; in the middle of this pond is a chapel which is approached by a causeway.

Issoudun is the prettiest town in the department, and the most ancient, for it was inhabited by the Gauls before the time of the Romans. The streets of the modern town are large and clean, and the walks in its neighbourhood are pleasant and agreeable.

In the pond of *Sept-Bordes*, leeches are very numerous—they form one of the valuable articles of commerce in Indre, as well as its iron, wool, and geese.

Vatan, a little town situated between *Valençay* and *Issoudun*, upon the high road from *Paris* to *Toulouse*. Under the minority of Louis XIII., this city became one of the first to rebel, and was besieged. The lord of the castle was taken prisoner, and conducted to Paris, where the parliament tried him for treason. The friends of *Vatan*, foreseeing his unhappy fate, entreated he would make his escape, repeating to him, without ceasing, that he should remember *his name*. Alas! it was only when at the *place de grève*, and on the point of perishing, that the unfortunate gentleman guessed the enigma (*Vatan, Va-t-en*). The unfortunate man was executed, after having neglected so often to follow the advice of friendship. At Paris every thing finishes by songs, and the death of this lord of *Vatan* gave rise to the following indifferent verse:—

Ici gît, par grande folie,
Un gentilhomme de renom,
A qui il a coûté la vie, *
Pour avoir oublié son nom.

His friends were, after all, very lukewarm in his fate, or they would have pointed out to *Vatan*, in more explicit terms, their meaning. The fact is hardly worth the recording, but that it shows the genius of the people, which can turn into jest so serious an affair as the loss of life.

There is no language more *piquant* than the French—it is the language for *conversation spirituelle*, and the genius of the people being likewise given to ridicule, and that play upon words which gives a lively zest to social converse—they never let escape the opportunity of displaying those powers which are not confined to persons of a good education, but are diffused, with a few exceptions, all over France. It is, however, surprising, that notwithstanding this disposition for satire, there is no people under the sun so susceptible, or that writhe under its effects as do the French. *En France c'est le ridicule qui tue*; and a young man, who can stand proof against the cutting irony, and playful though bitter sarcasm of his companions, must possess sterling

principles of rectitude, and a self-possession and command beyond an ordinary degree.

France used formerly to laugh at England for concluding all her consultations, ponderations, assemblifications, and even political considerations, with a *dinner*. It is to be hoped, that both these rival countries may have received benefit from the intercourse which the long interval of *sweet peace* has been the means of promoting between the two nations. Whether France has acted wisely in adopting this fashion, once so much ridiculed by her, is a question; but that she has adopted it, the following quotation from Delavigne's comedy of the *Comédiens*, will prove:—

L'auteur chez qui l'on dine est sur d'un bon succès; • •
 Qui dine avec son juge, a gagné son procès;
 Tout s'arrange en dinant dans le siècle ou nous sommes,
 Et c'est par les diners qu'on gouverne les hommes.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF CHER.

This is an inland department (centre), formed of a part of *Berri*, *Bourbonnois*, and *Nivernais*.

SOIL.—The surface is in general level; in some parts healthy, in others marshy, and along the banks of the numerous ponds it is fertile, and affords excellent pasturage for cattle.

WOODS.—Some parts of the department are wholly destitute of wood; in others it is abundant.

RIVERS.—The principal of these are the *Cher* and *Eure*.

FORESTS.—These are chiefly composed of chestnut trees.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—These consist chiefly of iron mines and ochre, and quarries of free stone; and from this department, and those of the *Indre* and the *Loire*, all the slits used in France are procured.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Bourdouloue*, *Laford*, *Chamillord*, *Louis XI.*, *Jaques Cœur*, and *Charles VII.*

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic. This department forms part of the diocese of the archbishop of Bourges. This archbishopric is very ancient, having been founded in the third century. The Protestants have two churches dependent upon the consistorial church of Orléans, and three Protestant schools.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz., *Bourges*, *Sancerre*, and *Saint Amand*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

BORGES.—This town occupies the exact central point of France. It is, besides, one of the most ancient, for it is said to have existed at the time the Tarquins reigned at Rome, at which period it was the seat of the Gaulish empire; it has been successively destroyed and rebuilt by Cæsar, the Visigoths, Didier Court de Blois, Charlemagne, Philippe Augustus, who fortified it by eighty towers, the walls of which were eighteen feet thick; one is still seen in ruins.

Bourges was the entrepôt for commerce, until it was nearly destroyed by a fire, in which seven or eight thousand houses were burnt; and the commercial fame of *Bourges* began from this moment to decline; and *Lyons* became the great entrepôt of the nation. Its university, however, escaped the flames, and it still retained its literary renown, although, from the numerous doctors that issued from this seat of learning, it excited the jealousy of other towns less renowned. Some one of them facetiously designed a coat of arms for the town, which consisted of *an ass seated in an arm chair*: it also became a proverb, when any one was seated idly in an easy chair to say, he represented the arms of *Bourges*. It was at *Bourges* that the Pragmatic Sanction was signed, and it was at *Bourges* that the unfortunate *Jaques Cœur* was born.

The cathedral at *Bourges* is a model of grandeur and Gothic beauty. The chapel contains the tomb of its founder, *Jean Duc de Berry*. The walk which adjoins this building is one of the most agreeable that can be imagined. That called the *Place de Verancourt*, though much talked of, is inferior to it; the streets of the town are ill-constructed, and the houses built without taste. Long. 3° 45'; lat. 47° 4' 58". Fifty-eight leagues south of Paris. Twenty-nine posts.

SANCERRE is seated upon a mountain, 4548 feet high, near the left bank of the *Loire*. This town possesses few attractions, but its vicinity is beautiful and productive, and its wines are fine, and deserve the praises that have been bestowed upon them. Yet *Sancerre*, though so insignificant, lays claim to great antiquity; a Roman wall, and some medals which have been dis-

covered in the adjoining country, seem to corroborate the assumption of its Roman origin. After the massacre of Saint Barthelmi, it followed the example of *La Rochelle*, *Montaubon*, *Nîmes*, and *Sommières*, and opened its gates to all those Protestants who escaped the poniards of the assassins. Charles IX., one by one, subdued these towns; *Sancerre* was the last, where such scenes of horror and misery were enacted as are too dreadful to relate. After the town was taken, the Catholics burnt the clock and the churches—the walls were rased, and the townsfolk deprived of their privileges, after having preserved their town from pillage by paying 40,000 francs to the *Sieur de la Châtre*, general of the king's forces. Its principal trade consists in wood and wine. There is in the neighbourhood a quarry of yellow-veined marble.

SECTION XXXI.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF MARCHE,
CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT OF CREUSE.

THIS is an inland department (centre): it consists of a part of *Haute Marche*, *Poitou*, *Bourbonnais*, *Limousin*, and *Auvergne*.

SOIL.—This department presents the picturesque scenery of rugged mountains, solitary glens, and deep valleys; the soil is generally sandy, and unproductive; the lands are divided into dry and moist; the latter, situated in the valleys, and enriched by the debris deposited by the mountain streams, are tolerably fertile, but these form a very small portion of the department.

MOUNTAINS.—These are ramifications from the *Cevennes*. They are level plains on their summits; and from one of these, that of *Semur*, 2220 feet above the level of the plain, *Cassini* gave his signals when he measured the meridian of Paris.

RIVERS.—It is singular that no river traverses *La Creuse*, except those which rise in it; the principal of these are the *Creuse*, *Cher*, *Taurion*, *Cheugnon*, and *Gortempe*, and no one of these is navigable.

MINES.—The only mines worked in this department are those

of pit-coal. Quarries of granite, freestone, potters' earth, are also found in various parts.

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Eraux* there are two warm mineral springs, the one called *Puits de César*, the other *Petite Source*; these waters are limpid, lixiviate, and flat; they contain carbonate, sulphur, muriate, carbonate of soda, a little carbonate of lime, and magnesia. They are stomachic, and they are excellent as baths in rheumatic affections.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Pierre d'Aubisson*, grand-master of St. John of Jerusalem; Marshal *Aubisson*, *Forstan l'Hermite*, *Varillas*, *Quinault*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Limoges*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.: *Guéret*, *Bourgauf*, *Aubusson*, *Boussac*.

Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Limoges*; it is comprised in the twenty-first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

GUÉRET is an insignificant town, to the south of which rise the barren and lofty mountains of the *Cevennes*, and to the north extends a beautiful plain, forming a fine contrast. *Guéret* seems to be famous for no earthly possession, yet was *Varillas*, the philanthropist, historian, and grammarian, born within this place. Though *Varillas* had his failings, he never overlooked the slightest grammatical error, and disinherited his nephew on account of some orthographical faults in a letter. *Guéret* was built in the eighth century; was fortified, and finally dismantled. This place is situated in long. W., $0^{\circ} 28'$; lat. $46^{\circ} 10' N$. Seventy-nine leagues south from Paris. Fifty-eight posts and a half.

AUBUSSON is built in a narrow gorge between two mountains. It contains a manufacture of carpets, tapestry, and paper. It would seem that the mountains of *Creuse* would produce much mineral and metal if they were worked, and that the poor inhabitants might thus find employment at home, instead of wandering from their homes as labouring masons; the numerous streams that intersect this country might surely be turned to advantage by the genius and industry of its inhabitants. On the top of one of the mountains is a castle, said to have been

built by Julius Cæsar. The houses of Aubusson and many other parts of Limousin, are mere huts, without design or order.

BOURGANEUF was the residence of the unfortunate Zizim when he fled to Rhodes from the persecution of Bajazet II. Pierre D'Aubusson, Grand Prior of the Order of Malta, for *la langue d'Auvergne*, and called the *Buckler of the Church*, sent the luckless Zizim into France to the priory of *Bourganeuf*. This prince built the famous tower, which is divided into six floors, the lowest of which is occupied by Turkish baths. Zizim became a convert to Christianity.

EVAUX is much resorted to for its baths; the waters issue from two opposite sides of the mountain, and formerly, according to tradition, fell from its summit in a broad sheet; but a malevolent fairy striking her foot, the print of which remains, the rocks were shaken, the waters took a different route, and the hewn hollows from which they issued were dried up—they are still called *creux des fées*. Not far from this place there are subterraneous galleries, a well cut in the solid rock, a stone bridge, and the ruins of a monumental sepulchre, at the door of which was placed the figure of *Silence*.

FELLELM is seated upon the side of a hill, bathed at the foot by the *Creuse*; the situation is pleasant and agreeable, but it contains no edifice worthy of remark; formerly it possessed a church, supposed to have been a heathen temple. It consisted of two naves, supported by massive round pillars, which supported the roof; it was used as a prison for the Austrians, but there is now not one stone left upon another, to point out the spot where it formerly stood.

There is a manufacture of carpets in the town.

SECTION XXXII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF LIMOUSIN,
CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF HAUTE VIENNE AND CORREZE.

I.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE VIENNE.

THIS is an inland department (W.), composed principally of *Haut Limousin*, to which has been added a small portion of *Haut-Poitou*, and *Basse-Marche*.

Soil.—There are absolutely no plains in this department; hills rise and fall in every direction, some high, some low, but all equally unfertile; the soil which forms them lies upon a granite foundation, and they are traversed from east to west by a part of the mountains of *Auvergne*.

RIVERS.—Numerous rivers and streams water this department, none of which are navigable. The principal one, the *Vienne*, falls into the *Loire*.

MINES.—This department contains mines of copper, lead, iron, antimony, pit-coal, and tin. The latter is the most remarkable of all of them, because it is the most scarce in France; it is situated at *Yauléy*. There are likewise many quarries of grey and serpentine marbles of granite. Much of that valuable earth or clay called *kaolin*, abounds in the neighbourhood; it is carefully extracted, and furnishes a lucrative article of commerce, when conveyed by the ingenuity of man into china. Crystals of amethysts, garnets, emeralds, and tourmalins, are found in many places.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—*Limoges* contains a royal society of agriculture, sciences, and arts; a philharmonic society, a museum of natural history, mechanic arts, and antiquities, a royal nursery, &c. &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Saint Eloy*, a goldsmith in the time of *Dagobert*. *Pierre Roger*, enthroned under the name of *Clement VI.*, and *Pierre Roger*, his nephew, afterwards Pope, under the title of *Gregoire XI.*, *De Bonneval*, a general celebrated for his bravery, and his apostacy, he having embraced the Mohammedan faith, died a pacha, and chief of the bombardiers of Constantinople; *Tabaraud*, *Mademoiselle de Sombreuil*, *Guy Lussac*; &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Limoges*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz.: *Limoges*, *Bellac*, *Saint Yrieix*, *Rochechouart*. Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Limoges*; it is comprised in the twenty-first military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

LIMOGE *o*—This ancient town, *Limorices Augustoritum*, is partly seated on a plain, partly on a steep hill, upon the banks of the *Vienne*. This town was evidently known to the Romans,

for although the sumptuous edifices which formerly adorned it are long ago destroyed, yet there is evidence of their existence. The barbarians, who paid little respect to the matchless works of art with which the Romans adorned all the cities they inhabited, destroyed indiscriminately temples and palaces. The amphitheatre built by Adrian, however, escaped their ravages; but in the reign of *Louis le Débonnaire*, the monks of *St. Martial* requested they might convert its materials into a church. Some remains of this edifice were still to be seen in 1714; but they were at that time usefully converted to the erection of the *Place d'Orsay*. A temple, dedicated to Venus, was dilapidated, for the construction of the episcopal palace. Henry II., Richard Cœur-de-Lion, and Edward the Black Prince left fatal traces of their prowess at Limoges, which were the natural consequences of the intestine wars, and the system of warfare, carried on in those distant periods. War, horrid war! the only justification of this scourge of the human race is, self-defence.

One part of *Limoges* consists of streets long and narrow, the houses of which are high, and the upper stories, built of wood, project so far beyond the foundation, that they intercept the rays of the sun. It contains, however, many fine public edifices, and *L'Allée de Tourny*, the *Place Montmaillé*, and those of *Orsay* and *Fitzjames*, are worthy of admiration. The fountains are both ornamental and highly useful; that of *Argoulème* especially, the waters of which form thirteen *jets d'eau*. The gardens of the bishop's palace extend along the banks of the *Vienne*, and command an extensive view.

The territory of *Limoges* produces wood, oxen, iron and copper, and antimony; and those peculiar earths which have so greatly improved the manufacture of china, by rendering it less sensible to the effects of fire than it was formerly. The *Limousins* have a manufacture of porcelain, of paper, leather, and white wax. Their horses, too, are much esteemed and sought after. Agriculture, from the nature of the soil, is not much attended to. The *Limousin* is distinguished by his activity, his wisdom, and precision in all matters of business; and in the management of his domestic affairs, he is no less careful and orderly. Thus, that part of the community who are least gifted with talents and mind, frequently attain that competence and respect which talents and mind cannot procure, unless accompanied with the

homely qualifications of order and regularity. They are ingenious artists, and so early as the twelfth century, they were renowned for producing beautiful copper crucifixes, richly gilt and enamelled; and at the end of the sixteenth century it was the fashion among the beaux of those days to wear a clasp in the hat called *Ensigne de Limoges*. The geographical position of this place fixes it in Long. W. $1^{\circ} 4' 7''$, lat. $45^{\circ} 49' 53''$ N.; and topographically it is 95 leagues south of Paris.

ROCHE-CHOUART derives its name from a rock bathed by the river *Creure*, over which it projects so frightfully, that it threatens some day to fall and crush *Roche Chouart*. Yet the inhabitants of this town are accustomed to look indifferently upon this danger; indeed, their situation, though highly picturesque, is, by no means enviously, for they are surrounded by mountains, without the reviving influence of a public road to enliven their hours of labour, or furnish village gossip for their hours of repose — *Mais on s'accoutume à l'ennui aussi bien qu'au danger*.

BELLAC was formerly the capital of *Basse-Marche* when France was divided into governments, and its magistrate, something like our sheriffs deputy, was dignified with the title of *consul*, and wore a robe formed of four breadths, two of which were red and two yellow, with a hat striped after the same fashion; but, alas! this gaily caparisoned magistrate has disappeared, and is replaced by a *sous-préfet*. The inhabitants of this part of the department form quite a contrast to those round *Limoges*, both physically and morally. The native of Limousin is a creature very phlegmatic, yet occasionally choleric, and of so slow a conception, that unless he were endowed (which he is) with an uncommon portion of perseverance, he never could accomplish any of those ends which he desires, and the means of which develop themselves slowly and progressively to his mind: he does not jump to conclusions, he arrives at them with labour and toil. He is slovenly and dirty, consequently subject to epidemic diseases. He periodically forsakes his roof when he can no longer employ his bodily strength to advantage at home. He repairs to the neighbouring countries, and even to Paris, where he pursues his labours as a mason or porter, &c., where he is a model of sobriety, patience, and industry; he is more attached to his mountains than the mountaineer of Cautal, and brings back to his native village fewer of the vices of the capital. The

women do not wean their children until they are two or three years old, when they feed them excessively for a time; after which period they are constrained to submit to the common fare of the country, radishes and chesnuts, which are peculiarly fine in these mountainous regions, and make excellent bread. As soon as they are able, they are employed as herdsboys—we will not say herdsmen; and when they are old, and unable to follow any other, they return to this occupation again. In early life they are affectionate children, but as they advance in years they become indifferent to their parents; indeed, when the latter are no longer useful, they are looked upon as incumbrances; yet to this unnatural feeling is allied one, which it should seem must have its origin in *pride*, that besetting sin. A Limousin would think himself dishonoured if any one of his relations, however distant, should seek refuge in an hospital. To complete the character of the Limousin of this part of Limousin, he is timid and fearful at home, brave and indefatigable as a soldier; he is penurious, economical for himself and his relations; gentle, charitable, and thoughtful for the stranger who seeks his roof, or solicits his aid; sober to excess during the days of labour, and drunken on fêtes and holidays! religious, as well as superstitious, and withal so credulous, that a *fortune-teller* would be received by him as a gift from heaven. One instance will suffice of their simple credulity.

At *Saint-Jaïen-les-Combes* there is the figure of *Saint Entrope*, to whom the young girls repair to pray for husbands; they walk several times round a cross near the statue, to which they fasten their garter, and then retire, satisfied that the object of their wishes will be granted. At *Dureac* the patron saint has a great reputation for healing all manner of diseases, provided a worsted ball be flung at the saint from the church door, and hit the precise spot on the figure of the saint which is diseased on the patient. The officiating priest is frequently so unfortunate as to receive the ball as it may chance, unless directed by a skilful hand! and thus ends the character of the Limousin. There are some Celtic remains in the neighbourhood of *Bellac*; even mutilated busts have been found, and a pillar which stands now in the churchyard. *Bellac* is therefore ancient, but all traces of its origin and antiquity are lost.

Uzillac is seated on the *Tourdauère*, which divides it into

two parts; the eastern part was formerly called *Chalus Chabrol*, which has led to the supposition that it was formerly the seat of the pro-consul of Aquitaine, *Lucius Capraolus*. It was long suspected that Lucius had concealed a treasure in the lower town, and in the twelfth century, Adhemar, Viscount of Limoges, found in the subterraneous apartments of the castle several statues of massy gold, seated round a table, and representing, to all appearance, the pro-consul and his family. *Richard-Cœur-de-Lion*, (and truth must be spoken, and history, alas! gives us too many proofs of the *avidity* as well as *bravery of heroes*) hearing of this discovery, repaired immediately thither, in company with Mercardus, a duke of Brabant, and demanded that the whole of this treasure should be given up to him. The vicomte refused, and the castle was besieged, and Richard received from Gourdon, one of its defenders, an arrow in the arm; the castle was taken, and Richard, being convinced his death was nigh, sent for Gourdon, and inquired the reason, why he had thus pointedly sought his life? "Why!" replied Gourdon, you, with your own hand, killed my father and my brothers; tyrant, I dare your rage, I have revenged my family; I am contented; let me die."

Richard, struck dumb by such reasoning, and admiring the man's intrepidity, ordered him to be set at liberty; but the cruel Mercardus scarcely waited for the breath to quit Richard's body, when he condemned Gourdon to a cruel death.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF CORRÈZE.

This is an inland department (S.), composed of part of the ancient *Limousin*.

SOIL.—With the exception of some of the valleys, which are enriched by the mould washed down from the mountains, the soil is generally poor; granite is found in the north, and in the south schistus.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains in the north of the department form one of the culminating points of the chain which separates the basin of the *Loire* from that of the *Dordogne*. A secondary chain descends from the valleys of the *Corrèze* and of *Vezize*, from the north to the south of this department.

RIVERS.—This department gives rise to several streams and rivers; these all fall into the *Dordogne*, except the *Vienne*, which

falls into the Loire; among these the Dordogne only is navigable, and that only for a very short space.

MINES.—*Corrèze* contains mines of lead, iron, antimony, and pit-coal. There are quarries of granite, quartz, millstones, freestone, limestone, clay, slate, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Etienne Aubert*, enthroned under the name of *Innocent IV.*; the names of *Combarn*, *Éti*, *Ventadour*, *Noailles*, *Ségur*, *Turenne*, &c., which stand distinguished in the annals of fame, all belong to natives of this department.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Limoges*; it is the see of a bishop.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz. *Tulle*, *Ussel*, *Brives*.

Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Limoges*; it is comprised in the twentieth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

TULLE, the ancient *Tutela*, seated at the confluence of the rivers *Corrèze* and *Solanes*, is partly built on a plain, and partly on the declivity of a mountain; it is surrounded by mountains and precipices. A manufactory of guns and pistols, of chocolate, liqueurs, brandies, and the net called *point de Tulle*, contribute to enrich the inhabitants of this part of the *Limousin*. *Tulle* is an ancient town; and the ruins of a circus, and many traditions respecting pagan temples, now no more, prove that it was known to the Romans. The best gazetteers place it in long. $0^{\circ} 33' 58''$ W. lat. $45^{\circ} 16' 3''$ N. One hundred and thirteen leagues S. of Paris. Sixty posts and a half.

BRIVES, in the middle of a beautiful and fertile plain, called *La Gaillarde*, three leagues in extent, opposite an island in the *Corrèze*, over which there are two bridges, is a pretty town. The walks along the river are beautiful. Not very distant from this place is *Pompadour*, celebrated for its stud of horses; it has also fine manufactories of silk and cotton stuffs, and white wax.

The village of *Beaulieu* is celebrated for its wines, and *Turenne* for having been once a sovereignty of the family of that name.

SECTION XXXIII.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF ANJOU,

CONTAINING

THE DÉPARTEMENT OF MAÏNE-ET-LOIRE

THE département of *Maine et Loire* is inland, (W); it is formed of ancient *Anjou* and of *Saumurais*

SOIL—It is fertile and rich in the valleys of the *Loire* and the *Mayenne*, its base is schistus and calcareous; the rest of the département presents undulations, variegated with fuize and heath

RIVER—The principal rivers are, *Loire*, *Loir*, *Sarte*, *Mayenne*, *Oudon*, *Anthion*, *Thouet*, and *Layon*. The *Loire* and the *Mayenne* are navigable in the whole of their course through this département. There is no river in France whose banks present so many beautiful points of view as the *Loire*, and the small islands that adorn its bosom in this département are considered as the finest of all those that are found in its course

QUARRIES.—Granite, marble, free-stone, limestone, slate, &c. abound

MINERAL WATERS.—At *Joannette* are two mineral springs, the one hot, the other cold.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*St. Hilaire*, Bishop of *Poitiers*, *Ambrose Paré*, a physician, whom Charles IX. wished to save from the massacre of *St. Barthelemi*; the families of *Brisac*, *Du Bellay*, *Madame Dacier*, *Bodin*, father and son, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Angers*.

This département is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz. *Angers*, *Legré*, *Béauvais*, *Saumur*, *Beaupréau*. Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Angers*. It is comprised in the fourteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ANGERS, seated upon the *Mayenne*, is imposing in its appearance, but upon a near approach it loses many of its charms, for the streets are crooked and inconvenient; it is divided into three

parts by the river; the town, properly so called; the second part consists of a small island; the third is called *La Doutre*. Two new *Boulevarts* encircle the lower part of the town. At its farther extremity, upon an immense mound, separated from the hill by deep ditches, rises the ancient castle, surrounded by high walls and eighteen great towers. It is constructed of blocks of slate, intermingled with bands of white stone, which gives it a singular appearance; its form was that of a vast parallelogram, but the side next the river is falling to ruins. The old citadel, and the cathedral dedicated to *Saint Maurice*, bear testimony to the splendour of the Christian and feudal government in former times. The hotel of the *Mairie*, and of the *prefecture*, the museum, the theatre, are all fine buildings. The public library contains 25,000 volumes.

Long. W. $2^{\circ} 53' 15''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 28' 9''$. Sixty-seven leagues south-west from Paris. Thirty-seven posts.

SAINT FLORENT-LE-VIEIL stands on a lofty ground, commanding the right bank of the Loire. Its situation is both picturesque and beautiful, and the view it commands of the noble river that flows at its foot is superb and enchanting. The verdant banks that border it, and the smiling islands that spangle its silvery waters, present a scene of tranquil beauty upon which the eye loves to repose.

Saint-Florent suffered much in the Vandean wars: the principal church contains a monument, erected to the memory of *General Bonchamp*, the work of *David*. This Vandean chief saved the lives of 5000 of the republican army, whom his troops were about to massacre.

SAUMUR.—This town is delightfully situated at the declivity of a hill, which is crowned by a strong castle; the great variety of architecture it displays is a proof that it has been evidently constructed at different periods. The walls and towers of *Saumur* are remarkable for their regularity. The public library contains 6000 volumes. The *Hotel de Ville* is a great gothic square castle, flanked by towers, surmounted by steeples. The *Loire* is very wide at this place, and forms many islands, which communicate with each other by means of bridges. The finest of these is composed of twelve elliptical arches, and it is 850 feet long; it meets a fine street, which leads to the interior of

the city. A riding school of great extent has been constructed upon a magnificent plan, about a quarter of a league below the town. The terraces of the castle constitute the favourite walks of the inhabitants. This town suffered much by the revocation of the edict of Nantes.

Saumur carries on a brisk trade in wines, brandy, hemp, flax, and the inhabitants possess some manufactories in cloths and handkerchiefs; some of them are sugar-refiners, tanners, &c. The territory produces wine, silk, maize, hemp, and flax, plums, oil, &c.

Long. 2° 24"; lat. 47° 15'. 24." Seventy-one leagues south of Paris.

BEAUPRÉAU is situated in a fertile country, at the confluence of the *Quion* and the *Vezée*. Not far from this place is an oak, calculated to be 2000 years old; it is thirty feet in circumference; the trunk, and a few of the lower branches are all that remain of this once stately tree, from which the Druids in former times, perhaps, gathered the sacred mistletoe,* and

* The veneration of the Druids for the oak has been thus accounted for in an ingenious and interesting, if not satisfactory manner:—

The author of this hypothesis was Charles Davy, M.A., rector of Orehome, in Suffolk. He supposes, and even takes it for granted, that the Celts first received their religious worship from the descendants of Abraham, by whom the oak was held in great veneration. Several passages in Scripture intimate the oak to have some typical relation to divine worship. It was planted at the Proseuchos (the spot between the porch and the altar, or that outside the gate where alms was asked) so far back as before the time of Joshyia the son of Nun; and its name, in the radical letters of the Hebrew, signified the Deity himself. The reverence of the Druidical priests for the plant springing from the oak, which they cut off with a golden pruning-hook with so much ceremony and awe, and afterwards offered upon their altars, arose therefore, possibly, from the corruption of the doctrine that the sacred BRANCH, as the Messiah was termed in after ages by the prophets, was to take upon him a *different nature* (as does the mistletoe from the oak) than that from which he proceeded, and to become an *expiatory sacrifice* for the sins of the world. The medicinal virtues attributed to the plant mistletoe, in the cure of epileptic diseases, imputed to the influence of malignant spirits, in the darkened ages of druidism, were probably derived from the same source, a tradition of the sacred Branch being sent for a *healing of the nations*, and as the powerful antagonist and vector over the influence of demoniac and evil spirits.—*Letters upon Subjects of Literature.*

beneath which, in later days, the pepper-corn rents belonging to the estates of Pommeraye were paid.

Fontevault.—This town is seated in the middle of a forest of the same name, about four leagues from *Saumur*. There was formerly a celebrated abbey here of the Benedictine order; its abbesses were generals of the order, and exercised a feudal right in its vicinity. These ladies were always of high rank, and they enumerated fifteen princesses, five of whom were of the house of *Bourbon*, among their number. The *dames de France*, children of the blood royal, were educated in this convent. It is also famous in modern times for being one of the places of imprisonment of the English when Bonaparte detained them in the year 1804. From this place they were afterwards removed to *Vendun*.

SECTION XXXIV.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF BOURBONNOIS,

CONTAINING

THE DEPARTMENT OF ALLIER.

THIS is an inland department (centre), composed of ancient *Bourbonnois*.

SOIL.—This department is very fertile, producing all kinds of grain, and the vine in perfection.

RIVERS.—The *Allier*, the *Cher*, the *Ornan*, and the *Eure*.

MOUNTAINS.—These are a continuation of the mountains of Auvergne, running near the western frontier, in a direction from north to south.

MINES.—There are some iron and coal mines, and quarries in this department.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are several mineral waters, among which those of *Vichy* are the most celebrated.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Maréchal de Berwick*, *Villars*, *Michel Morin*, a magician; *Pierre Petit*, *Thomas Regnaudin*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic; part of the diocese of *Clermont*. Its judicial administration depends upon the *cour royale* of *Riom*, and it is comprised in the twenty-first military division.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz., *Moulins*, *Montluçon*, *Gannat*, and *Lapalisse*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MOULINS is situated in an agreeable and fertile plain. The houses are built of red and black bricks, which produces a singular effect. In the chapel of the *College Royal*, formerly the "Convent of the Visitation," is a superb monument erected to the memory of the unfortunate Duke of *Montmorency*, whom the implacable Richelieu caused to be beheaded at *Toulouse*. The cavalry barracks are very fine; the staircase is much admired for its boldness. The barracks for the *gendarmes*, and the old tower, called *Mal-coiffée*, are the only remains of the castle erected by Duke Louis II. in 1370. In the library of Moulins is preserved the old Bible of *Sourigny*, which formerly belonged to the monks of *Sourigny* before the revolution of 1789. It was written in the twelfth century. This manuscript, having 392 leaves, twenty inches six lines in length, and four teen inches six lines in breadth, is larger than the Bible presented to Charlemagne on the day of his coronation, in 861. It is written on very beautiful vellum in double columns, with large margins; the text is very clear, and beautifully executed. The national library does not contain a manuscript of the Bible which can be compared to it. The text is adorned with numerous miniatures, the brilliant colours of which are enriched by the contrast of gold and silver. The cover (which time has greatly injured) is ornamented with bands of different metals, and with those fantastic animals which were so much the taste of the middle age. It is pretended that this Bible was consulted at the time of the Council of *Bâle*, from the correctness of its text. Proposals were made for the exchange of this valuable book for eight thousand volumes by the national library; but the inhabitants of Moulins having objected to the proposal, this exchange was given up.

The bridge over the *Allier* is composed of thirteen arches, the span of all of which is sixty feet. Unfortunately, the bed of the *Allier* is now so soft and muddy, that the stream acts visibly upon it, and this is the fifth bridge which has been erected within a century. There are many pretty walks in the neighbourhood. *Moulins* carries on a considerable trade in

grain, wine, oxen, pigs, fish; coals, silk, arms, &c. There are marble quarries in its vicinity, and the woods supply excellent timber for the various purposes of architecture.

Not far from *Mouline* is the village of *Souigny*, situated in a lovely valley, which Cæsar called *Umbra Vallis*.

Long. $0^{\circ} 59' 50''$; lat. $46^{\circ} 34' 4''$. Sixty-nine leagues from Paris. Thirty-six posts.

BOURBON L'ARCHAMBAULT is seated in a hollow; its baths are so hot, that the hand cannot be held in them unless they be tempered with cold water. Its ancient name of *Bourbonium* has given the house of *Bourbon* its name. It was at this town that *Jeanne d'Albert* married *Anthony* of *Bourbon*; duke of *Vendôme* and of the *Bourbonnais*, father of Henry IV. *Archambault* de *Bourbon*, one of the early dukes of this town, and to whom it owes its name, after signing his name to any act which had force within his domination, used to add, *Par la garantie de mon épée*; this he did in humble, or rather ostentatious imitation of *Charlemagne*, who never used any other seal than the pommel of his sword. The beautiful castle of the city was much repaired, enlarged, and flanked by twenty-four great towers by Louis II. surnamed *le bon duc*. The windows of this edifice were remarkably beautiful, consisting of the emblazoned arms of *Bourbon*, and much coloured glass. On the day that Henry the Third was murdered, the bar that crossed the escutcheon was broken by a thunder-storm, but the *fleur-de-lis* remained untouched. What the storm and the tempest respected, the revolution destroyed—this magnificent building is now a heap of ruins.

At *Gannat* there is a fountain, the waters of which poison animals.

In the neighbourhood of *Saint Pourcain*, behind *Mont-Marault*, is the small town of *Neris*, which owes its foundation to Nero; the ruins of an aqueduct, and of an amphitheatre and baths, one of which is still *puits de Cæsar*, is some proof of this.

At *Vichy* there are likewise baths known in the time of the Romans. Much of these waters is sent to Paris in bottles, where they are in great request.

SECTION XXXV.

ANCIENT PROVINCE OF AUVERGNE,

CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF PUY-DE-DOME AND CANTAL.

I.—DEPARTMENT OF PUY-DE-DOME.

THIS department is inland: it is formed of *Basse Auvergne*, some portions of the ancient *Bourbonnois*, *Lyonnois*, *Fbrez*, and *Velay*.

SOIL.—A beautiful and rich valley, sixty leagues square, bordered on the east and west by high mountains, and watered from south to north by the *Allier*, occupies the whole of this department. This valley is called *Limagne*.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of this department are remarkable for their height and their picturesque effect, but more particularly as forming the centre of those numerous chains which traverse the southern and central part of France, and by which they ally themselves to the Alps on the one side, and the Pyrenees on the other. Among these, the *Mont Puy-de-Dome*, properly so called, is conspicuous. It has all the appearance of having been completely calcined by subterraneous fires, which, not being sufficiently powerful to force their way through its solid surface, burst forth on many surrounding heights, and poured forth its flames and boiling lava, of which there are many and evident proofs still existing. Its summit is accessible, and the view from it is inconceivably magnificent; it is also very fertile. It was on this height that Pascal made his ingenious experiments on the weight of the air.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Allier*, the *Dore*, and the *Sioule*. The two former are navigable, and there are ferries-boats over all of them. There are also some ponds and lakes, which appear to occupy the crater of ancient volcanoes. They all produce fish.

MINES.—*Puy-de-Dore* is rich in mines of antimony, lead, alum, silver, coal, &c.; and it likewise possesses some quarries of marble, granite, and porphyry; basalt, *puzolane*, &c. There are also iron mines, but they are not worked.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are at Clermont an academy of the sciences, *belles-lettres*, and arts; an academy of geology and botany, and a society of agriculture.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Blaise Pascal*, a celebrated mathematician; *Arnauld d'Andilly*, the founder of the schools of *Port-Royal*; *Delille*; *Desaix*; *Généralis Dubouché*, *Fontarges*, &c. &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Clermont. The Protestants have a consistorial church at Clermont-Ferrand.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz.: Clermont-Ferrand, Riom, Thiers, Ambert, Issoire. Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of Riom. It is comprised in the nineteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CLERMONT-FERRAND is situated in the most fertile part of the plains of Limagne, at the foot of *Mont de Gergovie*. The most remarkable building in Clermont is the ancient college of the jesuits. The tower of the cathedral is placed on the side, instead of the front of the building, which gives it a singular appearance. The corn market has four fronts. The theatre of Clermont is small, and the streets, generally speaking, are narrow and gloomy; and this arises partly from the mixture of volcanic and calcareous materials, which are employed largely in the construction of the buildings. There is one beautiful fountain in the city, and in the suburb of Sainte Allire is a curious fountain, in the enclosure of the ancient abbey of the same name. The waters of this fountain have the property of encrusting every object they come in contact with. Over this fountain a plank was thrown, as a kind of bridge, and the waters having risen to an unusual height at various times, have deposited a calcareous substance, and have thus formed an apparent wall of one block of stone, 240 feet long, 12 wide, and 16 feet high on the sloping side, while on the other it appears to proceed from the soil. Many of the waters in the neighbourhood have this quality; the yellow pavement of the *rue des Eaux* derives its colour from an encrustation deposited by these waters. Many persons place small animals within them for the sake of having them encrusted, but larger ones always decay before the encrustation, not petrification, takes place.

Clermont possesses many agreeable walks and a magnificent botanic garden. It was in this town that the council was held in 1095, at which the first crusade was decided upon.

It has a manufactory of radeens, druggets, and serges; and among its articles of commerce are, corn, wine, hemip, cheese, and apricot tarts.

Long. $0^{\circ} 4' 57''$; lat. $45^{\circ} 46' 45''$. Ninety-three leagues south from Paris. Forty-seven posts and a half.

The three chains of mountains which traverse Auvergne, that of Dômes, of Cantal, and of Dor, have apparently been all formed by volcanoes. It is on the summit of *Mont-Dor* that the lake *Pavin* is to be found. Its form and its position render it one of the finest and most singular curiosities of France. This lake occupies the crater of an ancient volcano. The water does not mount to the summit of the mountain, but there is a magnificent curtain, it may be called, of the finest turf, which slopes gradually to the edge of the water, its height 125 feet in some parts; it follows all the sinuosities of the basin. At the bottom of this sloping turf there is a stone bank about twelve feet thick projecting over the lake; the rock sinks perpendicularly below the lake to the depth of 280 feet. The water is particularly clear. There is an immense crevice on one side of the mountain, through which the lava formerly issued, and it is by this opening that the lake now flows, falling in a limpid cascade into a channel which it has formed for itself, from whence it glides along a valley, until it falls into the *Couze*; its waters then lose their brilliancy, and become troubled.

ISSOIRE was formerly a well-fortified town. In the sixteenth century it was besieged, and the leaguers, under the command of the duke of Guise, having made themselves masters of the place, they collected in the church, by his orders, the few inhabitants who remained, where they were massacred in cold blood. A dreadful storm added to the horrors of this appalling scene, when the rolling of the thunder mingling with the screams and groans of the dying and with the imprecations of the conquerors, seemed to concentrate in this devoted city all the miseries which.

"Flesh is heir to."

Issoire is now a peaceable place, small, but embellished with beautiful walks. Of the two squares, the one is made use of as

a hay-field, and the other, as a public walk, occupies the site of its former ramparts.*

In the village of *Perrier*, which is near *Issoire*, there is a natural obelisk, which is almost inaccessible, yet on its summit of volcanic matter stands a ruined tower called *Le Maureulet*. Several cavities of the rock suggest the idea of its having afforded an asylum to man.

Ambert, which is to the west of *Issoire*, sends to America pins, needles, stuffs, and garters.

The small town of *Thiers*, although destitute of any thing to recommend it to the curious traveller, has much to interest a minister of finance, who would exult in the noise of those hammers and machines which the traveller in search of antiquities or the picturesque would escape from with the greatest activity. Here on every side there are manufactories of paper, cutlery, hardware, &c. &c., all of which are highly prized. *Thiers* is situated on the top of a mountain, which makes all its streets steep and difficult of access; and they are besides narrow and winding, the last property a result of their leading to and from an elevation difficult of ascent.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF CANTAL.

This is an inland department (S.) composed of *Haute Auvergne*, and a part of *Velay*:

SOIL.—This department is intersected by a great number of mountains and valleys, intermingled with what may be denominated *table lands*, since they consist of elevations which are totally flat at the top; they are called by the inhabitants *Plains*, and are tolerably fertile.

MOUNTAINS.—The *Plomb du Cantal* is the highest of the ridge that traverses the department. On every side they bear the traces of volcanic origin; among these traces are regular columns of basalt. Among the natural curiosities are the immense balls which appear to be formed of vast colossal flowers, resembling one mass of leaves curiously folded one over the other.

* It was also in this town, A.D. 1592, that the famous La Bourdaisière d'Estrees, mother of the beautiful Gabrielle d'Estrees, was massacred during a riot.

FORESTS.—The trees which principally compose the forests of this department are the fir, the pine, the oak, the beech, and the birch.

RIVERS.—The principal are the *Dordogne*, which separates this department from that of *Corrèze*; the *Maronne*, the *Jordane*, the *Cer*, &c. &c.

MINES.—Cantal contains mines of pit-coal and antimony: quarries of granite, mill-stones, &c., and in some parts of porphyry, tripoli, amianthus, black clay, amber, &c. &c.. A pyramidal rock, near *Ohandesaigues*, produces silver, sulphur, and arsenic.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.—There are at *Aurillac* a society of agriculture, of arts and commerce, a cabinet of natural history, &c.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Gerbert*, pope under the name of *Sylvestre II.*; the cardinal and the *maréchal de Noailles*; *Carrier*, of infamous memory, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *St. Flour*.

This department is divided into four *arrondissemens*, viz., *Aurillac*, *St. Flour*, *Mauriac*, *Murat*.

Its civil government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Rion*. It is comprised in the nineteenth military division.

CHIEF TOWNS.

AURILLAC is situated in a valley on the river *Jordane*; it is the largest and most populous town in *Cantal*. It contains an old castle, called *Saint Étienne*, the *Hotel-de-Ville*, a house for the préfet, a theatre, an hospital, barracks, baths, several churches, and a stud for horses; it is a very ancient town, and has produced a host of clever men who have distinguished themselves at the bar, in the pulpit, the army, and as private gentlemen. Among these we shall select one of its intendants, *M. de Montholon*, who, during a year of famine, provided the poor with work, relieving their necessities. Like an angel of light, he penetrated into the dark abodes of misery, dispelling by his presence the clouds of adversity, and restoring to the pale sickly countenance of pining want the roseate hue of health by his well-timed and continued bounty. His townsmen, grateful for his active and benevolent virtues, erected an obelisk to his memory, upon which the following lines were engraven:—

DEPARTMENT OF CANTAL.

" Nourrir un peuple entier, de famine expirant,
 Par les mains de ce peuple embellir cette ville,
 Rendre le malheur même utile,
 Enfin par ses vertus faire s'élever son rang,
 De MONTMOLON ce fut l'ouvrage.
 Puisse ce monument à jamais respecté
 Transmettre à sa postérité
 Nos maux et ses bienfaits, sa gloire, et notre hommage."

The obelisk has been replaced by a fountain, and the same verses, sealed up in a bottle, have been deposited beneath it. There is no accounting for the taste of a people.

According to the gazetteers, this place has long. 0° 7', lat. 44° 55' 10". One hundred and twenty-seven leagues from Paris. Sixty-seven posts and a half.

SAINT FLOUR.—The origin of this little town has been variously given; it is most probable that its antiquity extends only so far back as 1007, when a monastery was founded in these mountainous regions by *Amblord de Brezons* as an extenuation for his crimes. By degrees the monastery was surrounded by houses, until it became important from its size, and was appointed as the see of a bishop. *Paul de Ribeyre*, the celebrated *Belloi*, one of its latter bishops, greatly embellished it, and a gate still passes under the name of *Pont de Ribeyre*, over which was written:—

" De Ribeyre en ces lieux tu vois le moindre ouvrage;
 Compter nos monuments, c'est, compter ces bienfaits
 De l'église et du pauvre il accrut l'héritage;
 Il légua à ses parents les heureux qu'il a fait."

MURAT.—This town is placed in front of a rock, which protects it from the north and north-west; this rock is composed of regular prisms of five or six faces, which might be separated into columns of about ten feet in circumference; at a distance it has the appearance of a range of organ-pipes. This is no doubt a basaltic formation. Indeed, the whole range of these mountains is volcanic. The *Plomb du Cantal* rises about 6000 feet above the level of the sea.

The inhabitants of Auvergne are wretchedly poor; formerly they used to emigrate during the winter months, and by following the occupation of tinkers, porters, &c. &c., would return

to their families, bringing with them their earnings, and commencing their labours anew in the pursuits of agriculture. Some of these mountaineers still lead the same life, but the revolution has worked a change even here, and not one of the most beneficial. There is little doubt that good frequently springs from apparent evil, and that France may ultimately reap benefit from the revolution of 1793, is equally not to be doubted, when the effervescence of lawless liberty has subsided into the genuine spirit of freedom. But the mountaineers of Auvergne have hitherto imbibed only its deleterious qualities, and the consequence is, that many have emigrated entirely, and those who return to their families bring back extravagant ideas of the necessities of life, and choose the summer as more agreeable for their peraginations. This is much to be lamented, for, instead of bringing into the department the former sum of 1,485,000 francs, they have reduced it to 600,000; and the industrious inhabitants of the *Haute Loire*, *Aveyron*, *Lot*, *La Creuse*, and *La Corrèze*, arrive annually to do that work which was formerly done by the *Cantalians* themselves. Nay, the travelling tinkers and braziers of Switzerland and Italy seek a livelihood among these poor inhabitants of Auvergne. There is nothing in creation so vile as not to furnish the means of existence to something even worse than itself. Amongst rational beings none are so miserable but you will find others who can fatten upon the wretched. Time was, when the Helvetians and the Italians furnished rich banquets to the northern barbarians. But the times change, and we change with them.

Among the objects of curiosity which have been discovered in Auvergne, the mummy of *Mortre* is one that has puzzled philosophers exceedingly, as to when and why this solitary object of care, labour, and expense should display an art confined to the Egyptians; or how it found its way back to the neighbourhood of *Mortre*.

The following extract contains the particulars of its discovery:—“In the *Mercury* (a newspaper) of 1756 there is the following description of the *momie des Mortres*, which was found in a low and damp meadow, about one foot under ground only. The tomb which contained the mummy, was apparently hewn in a grey porous stone, without ornament and without inscription. The tomb and the coffin were composed of two pieces of stone

which fitted into each other; there were two slits in the coffin, the use of which could not be accounted for; the one was in a line with the mouth of the child, the other with the stomach. They were filled with *bouffe* (cow's or horse-hair). The mummy was that of a child about ten or eleven years old, embalmed with so much art, that the body was in a state of absolute perfection, the soul only was wanting to give *voluntary* motion to its limbs, for they obeyed the impulse given to them by the bystanders, and the fingers possessed even so much elasticity as to resume their original position. Its feet pointed to the west, and its arms were extended in a straight line on each side. The head was large, the forehead uncovered, the hair of a chestnut brown, two inches long—in short, no one feature was deficient, or appeared to have undergone the slightest alteration, even the eyes preserved their vivacity when disengaged from their cements; the body was found surrounded by a bed of aromatic gums usually made use of in embalming; then came a very thin layer of tow; this was followed by a very coarse cloth, which enveloped the body, and this was wound round by rollers which confined it. The feet and the hands were tied up in little bags filled with aromatics, and the head in a cap which appeared to be made of some prepared skin, but the substance could not be accurately defined. Over all these were placed two winding-sheets; the one of the finest texture, the other of very coarse materials, woven like a mat. All the linen, bands, &c., were strongly impregnated with aromatics. The peasants who found this mummy concluded it must be the body of a saint. They carried it to the church, set the bells ringing, and evinced the most extravagant demonstrations of joy; but here they did not stop, for they mutilated the beautiful relic, in order to possess some portion of it as a charm; and had not the bishop of Clermont timely interfered, it would have been wholly destroyed; but so little did he value this curiosity, that he desired it might be re-buried. But the seneschal of Rion ordered it to be again exhumed, and placed in a glass case for exhibition; the money derived from this exhibition was to be devoted to the hospital. But a command came from Versailles that it should be sent to Paris, and placed in the *cabinet d'histoire naturelle*." In 1790, Le Grand-d'Aussy says, "it is still to be seen, but black, dried up, and stiffened, and so altered from all it has undergone,

that it would not be recognised by those who saw it in its first state of beautiful preservation.' **

SECTION XXXVI.

THE ANCIENT PROVINCE OF CHAMPAGNE,
CONTAINING THE DEPARTMENTS OF ARDENNES, MARNE, AUBE,
AND HAUTE MARNE.

1.—DÉPARTEMENT OF ARDENNES.

* THIS is a frontier department (N.), formed of a part of *Champagne*.

SOIL.—The soil of this country is very varied. In the centre the earth is luxuriant, and produces apple, plum, and cherry-trees. The eastern parts are devoted to the culture of grain, and the north is cold and barren.

MOUNTAINS.—The forest of *Ardenues* is situated on and among mountains, which perhaps bear the same name. The scenery among these forests and mountains is wild and dangerous, and the wolf of *Ardenues* is no contemptible animal.

RIVERS.—The *Meuse* and the *Aisne* fertilize its soil.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—These consist chiefly of iron mines, and slate and marble quarries.

REMARKABLE PERSON.—*Marshal Turenne*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Rheims. Its judicial administration depends upon the *cour royale* of Metz, and it is comprised in the twentieth military division.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Mezières*, *Rocroy*, *Reims*, *Sedan*, *Vouziers*.

This department derives its name from the extensive forest of *Ardenues*.† The length of this forest in the early ages was five hundred miles. At present it is confined to that part of

* *Ruych* prepared a mummy in so exquisite a manner, that Peter the Great embraced it as the body of a beautiful living child.

† Arden was the common appellation given to forests by the Celts. The word is a compound of *Arda*, which signifies *high*, or *great*; and *ven* or *des*, either a hill, or wood. Cæsar and Tacitus write the word

France which lies between Thionville, near the country of Liège, to Doncherry and Sedan, on the confines of Champagne. Towns and villages and abbeys are interspersed throughout even this small remains of the impenetrable forests of antiquity, which are likewise traversed by one or two high roads; all the cross-roads are in general so narrow that two waggoners cannot pass each other, and the waggoners are provided with bells or horns to give notice of their vicinity.

CHIEF TOWNS.

MEZIÈRES.—The church of *Notre-Dame*, the tower of which serves as a point of observation in time of war, and the fountains, are the only public buildings worthy of notice. Its citadel was built in 1591. The *Preux-Sans-Peur*, the *Chevalier Bayard*, during the war between Charles V. and Francis I., defended this city against the Emperor, and compelled him to retire. In the commencement of this war, the French monarch had some idea of destroying the town by fire, on account of its weakness. "There are no places weak," replied Bayard, "when there are brave men to defend them. I will go and shut myself up in Mezières, and will give you a good account of it."

Mezières is seated on the *Meuse*, partly on a hill, partly on a plain.

Its trade consists in strong leather, irons, linen cloth, serges, hats, hemp, and woollen stuffs. Its territory contains quarries of stone and slate.

Long. $0^{\circ} 2' 26''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 47'$. Fifty-six leagues N. E. from Paris.

The southern part of this department is exceedingly fertile, particularly about *Vouziers*. Near *Ligny-le-Grand* rises a high mountain, upon the top of which is a lake, the waters of which neither decrease nor increase; a cord of sixty fathoms cannot fathom it. If the weather be bad, it is impossible to approach near to it, for the clayey earth by which it is surrounded is generally wet. Hence it is also called *Fosse-aux-Mortiers*.

Arden. The forest of *Arden* in Warwickshire, and that of *Mancenion*, which occupied the site and surrounding country of the present Manchester, was called *Arden*. Oasian, speaking of the forests of *Galedonia*, calls them *Arden*—hence the same appellation was given not only to the prets in the plains of Warwickshire, but to the hills of Scotland.

CHARLEMONT, in the north, was built by Charles V. on a rock, at the foot of which is the village *Givet*. The barracks in this village are very fine, and extensive; during the late war, they were used as prisons for the English.

CHARLEVILLE was founded by *Charles Gonzague*, duke of Nevers, in 1609. It was originally a castle; it is now a fine city. Its streets are straight; the houses of a regular height, and covered with slate; four principal streets lead to the gates, and form a large square in the middle of the city, where there is a fine fountain. *Charleville* contains a celebrated manufacture of arms, beer, and leather. It exports lace, stockings, sheets, works in marble, and its territory produces slate and coal.

Long. $0^{\circ} 2' 28''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 47'$. Fifty-six leagues north-east from Paris.

SEDAN possesses a cannon-foundry and a fine arsenal, which contains the arms of many renowned knights. The municipal council have the intention (perhaps they have already executed it) of erecting a monument to the memory of Marshal Turenne, who was a native of this place. The fountains and churches of *Sedan* are well worthy of notice.

2.—DEPARTMENT OF MARNE.

This is an inland department (N.F.); comprised of a portion of *Champagne*.

SOIL.—Its surface is irregular, consisting of alternate plains and gently rising hills, interrupted by highlands. In the interior it is dry and chalky, but on the frontiers the soil is fertile. The eastern and western parts are marshy and low.

RIVERS.—These are the *Marne*, *Aisne*, *Seine*, *Verles*, *Suippe*, &c. &c.

MINES AND QUARRIES.—Iron, coal, marble, slate and kaolin.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Colbert*, *Pluche*, &c.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Meaux*. Its judicial administration is attached to that of the *cour royale* of *Paris*, and it forms part of the second military division.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Châlons-sur-Marne*, *Rheims*, *Str Menchould*, *Vitry-sur-Marn*, and *Epernay*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CHALONS is situated between two luxuriant meadows upon the *Marne*. It is more extensive than beautiful, being ill paved, and the houses chiefly built of wood. The front of the *Hotel de Ville* is very fine, and the Gothic cathedral, erected in the thirteenth century, is a splendid specimen of architecture. The school of arts and trades is worthy inspection. The remains of the camp of Attila are still to be seen in its vicinity; it was to this camp that the devastator retired after having in vain laid siege to Orleans; here he was followed by *Merovic, Chilperic, and Actius*, who gave him battle, and here he lost his life with 180,000 Huns, his brave but cruel companions.

The trade of *Chalons* has diminished of late years, since the construction of the canal of Briere.

Long. $2^{\circ} 2' 12''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 57' 28''$. Forty leagues east from Paris. Twenty-one posts.

RHEIMS, the ancient *Durocorturum Remi*, is an old and beautiful city, situated in a plain surrounded by little mountains which produce the delicious wine of *Champagne*.

Among the buildings most worthy of attention are, the Archbishop's palace, and the *Hotel de Ville*. Above the portico of the latter is a fine basso-relievo of Louis XIII. on horseback.

The *Place Royale* is one of the finest squares in France. In the middle of it is a statue of Louis XV. The gates of *Bucchus, Venus, Mars, and Ceres*, the remains of an amphitheatre, and of a triumphal arch erected by the *Roman* in honour of *Cæsar Augustus*, when *Agrippa*, governor-general of the Gauls, caused one of the principal military roads to pass through Rheims, proclaim its antiquity. The fountains of Rheims, seventeen in number, were erected at the expence of a canon, named *Godinot*, who, deriving an immense revenue from his vineyards, appropriated these funds for this salutary and beneficial purpose. The cellars are likewise objects of curiosity; they are constructed, or excavated rather, in the chalk, and in these subterraneous caverns lie, tier above tier, the white, the red, the still, the sparkling wines, so valued by all those whose purses are rich enough to procure them, when

— “Sated Hunger bids his brother Thirst
Produce the slender tapering glass.”

And as an accompanying relish, the gingerbread and hams of Rheims are strongly recommended by the *bon vivants* who visit this renowned city.

The cathedral of *Rheims* stands unrivalled for the beauty, richness, and elegance of its construction, so peculiar to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. It is the work of two architects, viz., *Eibergier* and *Roger de Courcy*. The former erected the portal, the towers, the nave, and the two lower sides; the latter constructed the cross, the choir, and the chapels that surround it. Its erection occupied thirty years, and even after its completion received many additional ornaments in sculpture. One of the pillars presents an extraordinary phenomenon; it is the first of the five, southern *arcs-boutants* of the church; when the fifth bell (of twelve) is rung, this particular pillar, though at the distance of ten feet from the tower, and nearly forty feet below the bell, without having any apparent relation with it, began immediately to move responsive to its vibrations, the greater bells having no effect upon it whatever. The Czar Peter the Great, in 1717, visited this church, and was astonished as he felt the stairs tremble beneath his steps; for he ascended to the belfry, in order to make his observations upon the subject: his cogitations were profound, for while ruminating on this phenomenon, some persons affirm that he fell fast asleep, and came down just as wise as he went up. Near the door of the church there is a white marble tomb, eight feet long; it is composed of one block only. The remains of Jovian, one of the prefects of the Gauls, lie within it; he was a simple citizen of *Rheims*, and was raised to that dignity in the time of Julian the Apostate.

The archbishop of *Rheims*, as the successor of Saint Remi, who converted and baptized *Clovis*, the only Christian monarch of his time, claims the privilege of proclaiming, and consecrating, and crowning all the kings of France.* In 1059, Henry I., and in 1108, Louis VI. attempted, but in vain, to break through this privilege of the archbishop of Rheims; and Louis VII. caused the ceremony for the consecration of the kings of France to be formally drawn up and registered in the *Chambre des Comptes*, that it might be followed and obeyed by the kings his successors in future; and until the reign of Louis XVI., almost every monarch who had a veneration for old and established customs

* See Note B, at the end of the volume.

was content to repair to *Reims* for the celebration of his coronation; and all historians agree, that the coronation of Louis XIV. was performed with the most scrupulous attention not only to the prescribed rules of the written documents, but even with the greatest exactness to the slightest traditions.

It was in this cathedral that the *Sainte Ampoule* was carefully preserved; it was said to have been brought from heaven by a *dove*; others affirm by an *angel* at the baptism of *Clotis*; but "the balm of the *Sainte Ampoule* has undergone the fate of all human things—it has yielded to the effects of time, it has undergone the alterations analogous to all terrestrial objects—for it has changed its nature—it has not preserved its fluidity; it is dried up to a hard congealed substance of a dark red, almost entirely opaque, and reduced to the half of its original quantity." The phial that contained it was the size of a fig. The *Sainte Ampoule*, or crystal phial, was deposited within a white enamelled dove, with its wings extended. The interior of this dove was either of gold or silver gilt; the beak and claws were red; it rested upon a frame of silver gilt, except the actual plate upon which it stood, and this was of pure gold set with precious stones; to this frame was attached a silver chain, which the abbot put round his neck when he carried the sacred relic to the church. The upper part of the *Sainte Ampoule*, or phial, which was of glass or crystal, was clear and transparent, but the lower part was dark from the balm, which was concrete, although soft enough to be removed by the golden needle employed for that purpose. It was highly fragrant. The use of balm and fragrant oil, in ceremonies of religion, is of the highest antiquity. The formation of this balm by the Greeks was an object of the greatest importance and study. *Dom Vert* says, that in the Greek church forty different kinds of aromatics and perfumes are made use of as the foundation of the *Saint-Chrême*, among which amber, cinnamon, cloves, spikenard, the red rose, of Sirak, aloes, &c. are conspicuous. The Latin church uses pure balsam only.

In 1793 this phial was broken, but the balsam which it contained was partly preserved by *M. Hourelle*, and *Made Seraine*, who was at that time curate of *Saint Remi de Reims*. Upon receiving intimation of the threatened profanation, they repaired

to the church, and from the tomb of *Saint Remi* they took *La Sainte Ampoule*. With the needle which was used to extract the balm at the coronation of a king of France, they removed as much as they could of the encrusted balsam, and put it in a crimson velvet purse, embroidered with golden *fleurs-de-lis*. These particles have been since put by M. de Courcy, archbishop of Rheims, into a new reliquary, and are again deposited in the tomb of *Saint Remi*. These are historical facts, and as facts they will be preserved for the discussion and amusement of antiquarians of future times. They are not detailed to prove the actual sanctity of this oil, or to verify the assertion that it was actually a gift from heaven, but rather to disprove it from the testimony of those who were once most anxious to establish it.

Rheims is a town of considerable trade; it has manufactories of linen, druggets, flannels, crapes, cloths, casimeres, woollen and cotton counterpanes, acids, salts, candles, toys, &c. Its territory produces wine, corn, forage, &c.

Long. $1^{\circ} 42' 53''$; lat. $49^{\circ} 13' 36''$. Thirty-four leagues north-east from Paris.

EPINAY.—This town contains no one remarkable object except its wine cellars, which are deeper and more extensive than those of Rheims. They are likewise more curious, for they are scooped out of the chalk in labyrinths. It is an ancient town, and its name is a corruption of *Aqua Perennes*, which was given to it on account of its numerous springs. Indeed, it is very common, upon digging twelve feet deep, to meet with a well, and no less frequently are they surrounded by tessellated pavements. Epinay was formerly fortified, but Charles the Bald dismantled it. It has undergone many vicissitudes; Charles V. got possession of it by treachery; Henry-IV. took it from the leaguers, and during this obstinate siege Marshal *Biron* was killed at the time that Henry was leaping on his shoulder.

3.—DEPARTMENT OF AUBE.

This is an inland department (N. E.), composed of a part of *Champagne*.

SOIL.—The northern districts of this department are uniformly barren, but the vine and grain find a genial soil in the rest.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Urban IV.*, the painter *Mignard*, and the sculptor *Girardon*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of Troyes. Its judicial administration depends upon the *coar royale* of Paris. It is comprised in the eighteenth military division.

This department is divided into five *arrondissemens*, viz., *Troyes*, *Arcis-sur-Aube*, *Bar-sur-Aube*, *Bar-sur-Seine*, and *Nogent-sur-Seine*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

THOYES, the ancient *Augustobona* of the Romans, and the *Treca* of the Gaulish people, the *Tricasses*, is one of the richest and most considerable cities of France; it is seated on the bank of the Seine, which is here bordered by five extensive meadows, remarkable for their fertility. The churches of this town are numerous and beautiful; that of *St. Urban* was founded by Pope *Urban IV.*, who was the son of a shoemaker of Troyes. In the church of *Saint Nicholas* there is an exact representation of the sepulchre and chapel of Calvary in that of Jerusalem; the architect took two journeys to the East, in order to procure models for the work. The church of *Saint Pantaléon* is remarkable for the beautiful and richly ornamented pillars; and that of *Saint Nizier*, and *La Magdaleine* are rich in the productions of the sculptor *Girardon*, and the painter *Mignard*. In the church of *Saint Remi* there is a superb bronze figure of the Saviour. *Saint Pierre*, the cathedral, though not one of the largest cathedrals in France, has first-rate claims to beauty. The nave is supported by twenty-four pillars, which diminishing by degrees, form the circle of the dome of the choir; beneath these pillars there are four and twenty other pillars, opposite to corresponding ones, which are attached to the wall. The pavement of the choir, the double range of aisles on each side,—

“The storied windows, richly dight,
Casting a dim religious light,”

form a *coup-d'œil*, which fancy may imagine, but words cannot describe.

The external part of this cathedral is by no means equal to its interior.

The *Hôtel de Ville* and the *Hôtel Dieu* are fine buildings. There are no fountains in the upper town, and the water of the

Wells is not very good. The beautiful walk of *La Magdaleine* is watered by a limpid stream. The public library is established in the former convent of the Cordeliers.

There are the remains of one of three castles that in the days of long syne defended and occasionally annoyed the town. The counts of Champagne are said to have made one of these (the remaining one) their place of residence.

Troyes contains happy manufactures, and it carries on a brisk trade in linen, thread, cotton, fustians, satins, wax and tapers, &c. The town is like very many of the towns in France, paved with sharp pebbles.

Long. $1^{\circ} 44' 34''$; lat. $48^{\circ} 18' 5''$. Thirty-eight leagues south-east from Paris.

At *Mery-sur-Seine* the Seine begins to be navigable, and in the neighbourhood of this small town a gentleman of the name of *M. Guercpain* possesses 900 hives of honey bees.

ARCIS, seated on the *Aube*, which becomes navigable at this place, is a busy stirring town, it being the mart for dispatching the various commodities from the neighbouring cantons to Paris.

BAR-SUR-SEINE is in itself an insignificant town, but in its neighbourhood there is a hill crowned by a wood, formerly called *Garennes des Comtes*. Tradition says, that some shepherd, having found a small wooden statue of the Virgin upon the trunk of an old oak, a small chapel, called *Notre-Dame*, was erected round this trunk, for the preservation of the image; and so great was its reputation for sanctity, that pilgrims came from all parts to procure small pieces of the tree as amulets against all harms. In all national calamities, the inhabitants of *Bar-sur-Seine* used to carry this image in procession, with great pomp, through the streets; after which, *Notre-Dame* was carried back to her rustic abode. The most remarkable fact, however, relating to this chapel and image, that during the lawless and reckless days of the Revolution, this chapel, with the wood which surrounds it, was respected!

BAR-SUR-AUBE.—The antiquity of this town is only proved by the ancient church dedicated to *Sainte Germaine*, who founded it, and who suffered martyrdom in the city. The town is divided into four quarters, which were formerly inhabited by *Provençal*, *Loirain* and German merchants, and the Jews had likewise a synagogue within its walls. Close to it are the remains of a

town which was burnt by Attila. About two leagues from Bar, stood the celebrated abbey of *Clairvaux*, founded by *Saint Bernard*, in 1115. It contained the tomb of the abbot, and his famous cask called *tonne de Clairvaux*, which held 800 pipes of wine. This abbey is now converted into a much more useful establishment, a manufactory for making paper.

4.—DEPARTMENT OF HAUTE MARNE.

This is a frontier department (N. E.) including the southern part of *Champagne* and *Brie*.

SOIL.—The soil is, generally speaking, chalky; in some parts, producing fertile pasturages, particularly along the banks of the rivers, and the hills are covered with vines. Some districts are barren.

RIVERS.—This department is intersected by the *Marne*, *Meuse*, *Maese*, *Blaise*, *Voire*, *Ornain*, and *Vaujon*, besides which it contains numerous small lakes.

MOUNTAINS.—A high ridge of mountains runs north and south, near the eastern frontier of this department, the summits of which may be called table lands. They appear to be ramifications from the *Vosges*.

FORESTS.—These are very extensive, covering upwards of 500,000 acres; they are highly productive, and their timber forms a great article of commerce.

MINES.—These consist chiefly of iron; they are numerous and profitable.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Pluché*, *Le Batteux*, *Lingy*, *Flacine*, *La Fontaine*, *Bouchardon*, *Diderot*.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic, forming part of the diocese of *Langres*. Its judicial government depends upon the *cour royale* of *Dijon*, and it is comprised in the eighteenth military division.

This department is divided into three *arrondissemens*, viz., *Chaumont*, *Vassy*, and *Langres*.

CHIEF TOWNS.

CHAUMONT is situated on a barren mountain, rich in iron ore; its ancient name was *Calvus Mons*, *Mont Chauve*, by corruption *Chauxmont*. *Chaumont* is well built, in the form of an amphitheatre. The principal fountain and the *Hotel de Ville*, its pretty

walks—and all is told. The sepulchre of Chaumont is indeed an exception—it is composed of ten beautiful statues of exquisite finish—at least it was so, but its delicacy and beautiful outline have been greatly injured by several coats of thick paint, which have destroyed all its sharpness. The Champenois have received the epithet of *bête*; how undeservedly the following story will prove, though it gave rise to the proverb to which they are indebted for their ill-bestowed character:—“*Quatre vingt-dix-neuf moutons et un Champenois compteraient comme cent bêtes.*”

In former times, the neighbouring barons extorted a fine upon all the merchandise that passed through their territories, but by especial favour they had exempted from toll all persons who did not possess 100 sheep. The cunning owners of the flocks continued at all times to pass only ninety-nine sheep; which trick being discovered, the baron decreed, *that ninety-nine sheep and a Champenois should count as a hundred beasts.* Champagne, too, is the native place of *La Fontaine* and *Racine*, and, as the song says, they were not *bête*, nor *bêtes*:—

“Jean *La Fontaine* et *Racine*
 Etaient de ce pays là:
 La nature, j’imagine,
 En a fait d’plus bêt’ que ça!”

Chaumont was also the birth-place of the witty *Abbé de Pons*, who was humphoeked, and upon whom *La Motte* made the following lines:—

“Ami, l’on dit que la nature,
 De cette aimable créature
 Ayant fait le corps si petit,
 Pour dédommager la matière
 Fit un paquet, tout plein d’esprit,
 Qu’elle lui placa par derrière.”

Chaumont manufactures druggets, serges, gloves, and stockings, and its wax is celebrated.

Long. 0° 2' 50"; lat. 48° 6' 13". Fifty-six leagues south-east from Paris. Thirty posts and a half.

CHOISEUIL.—Wolves abound in this neighbourhood to such a degree, that a battery of six cannons has been erected in order to destroy them if they approach within a certain distance of the town. This is making war upon them in earnest, but with little effect, it should seem; for in thirty years 150 wolves only

have died this honourable death. Several accidents have happened, arising from the imperfect vision of some of the engineers employed in this service, and, in more instances than one, human victims have fallen, instead of the fierce ravagers of the flocks and herds.

LANGRES.—Tradition affirms this town to have been founded by *Langon*, son of a Celtic king, who reigned in the year of the world 2139! In the time of the Gauls it was the capital of the *Longones*, a people renowned for their valour. It suffered much from the Vandals and Germans; whose king, *Erécus*, pillaged it notwithstanding the intercessions made to him by *Saint Didier*, its bishop, who likewise fell a victim to the cruelty of the Vandal monarch. A triumphal arch, which still remains, was erected in honour of their rescue from the hordes from the north by the Emperor *Constance Chlore*. Attila burnt it; the Saracens next ravaged its territory; in 887, *Charles Le Gros* surrounded it with walls; in 1361, John king of France fortified it, and Louis XI. built the *Tour de Saint Forgeuil*, and Francis I. erected the *Tour Piquante*, and that of *Petit Saint*. Its walls are constructed of the remains of former splendour; bas-reliefs of much excellence are to be seen in many parts of them, some quite perfect, others mutilated. In some places the holes made for the bowmen to shoot through, and in other parts, the grooves through which the bars of the portcullis slipped, are to be accurately traced. The walks of this town might have commanded an extensive view from the ramparts, but the inhabitants preferred covering them with a slated roof, so that there is a sheltered promenade all round the town. Numerous are the relics preserved in this neighbourhood by the Langrais, even among the peasantry of medals, Roman urns, inscriptions, &c. &c., which they transmit from father to son with the most positive commands never to part with them.

The cathedral is an ancient building, founded in the fourth century, on the ruins of a heathen temple. The peristyle is supported by a circle of Corinthian pillars, crowned with a beautiful frieze in foliage. It contains several statues, all of which are gilt, save one, that of *Saint Mamès*, patron saint of the church. He is represented as a shepherd in a Grecian costume, deeply absorbed in the perusal of the holy gospel. He was, in two senses, the shepherd of his flock. From the humble employment of tending

his sheep in the plains of Asia, he was translated to Gaul, for the purpose of becoming the shepherd and bishop of the newly-converted Christians of that part of Europe. This statue, which is remarkable for its beauty and its simplicity, is the work of *M. Bertrand*. The pretended relics of the three Hebrews whom Nebuchadnezzar threw into the fiery furnace, are shown to travellers. According to tradition, they were brought hither from Constantinople, A.D. 490. When mentioning these relics, the youthful reader is supposed to have been too well taught to give credence to such improbable stories. A figure in wood, now much worn, of the dying Saviour, is greatly admired for its too faithful representation of the agonies of death.

Langres stands, according to Buffon, on the highest land in France. The view from the steeple top is, as may be supposed, very fine and extensive; on the summit of the tower there is a small chamber for the *veilleur*, or watcher. From this elevated situation he can see to the distance of thirty or forty leagues around; and, on the slightest indication of fire within or without the town, he can sound the tocsin without quitting his post. The rise of the rivers *Marne*, *Meuse*, and *Vingeanne*, may be distinctly discovered likewise. Next to the view from Mont Cassel, this eminence commands the most extensive and the most varied in France. Mountains, forests, rivers, vineyards, cultivated fields, towns, and villages, with their several churches, combine to form a lovely a picture as can possibly be imagined.

Langres has a considerable trade in wheat, oats, linseed, wool, hemp, and hones for sharpening cutlery. Its manufacture of paper is very celebrated. *M. Lcurent Bournot*, who is at the same time a printer, type-founder, and engraver, as well as paper-manufacturer, has devoted his talents particularly to the fabrication of paper. He was the first who manufactured a sheet of nine feet long and seven feet wide.

Langres is the country of Julius Sabinus, who headed the ancient Gauls in their efforts to shake off the Roman yoke. Several of the Roman legions, forsaking their allegiance to Vespasian, joined the *rebel*; if such they may be called, who fought for the independence of their country. (By the bye—this word *rebel* has never been properly and definitively explained.) The general of Vespasian, *Petilius Cerealis*, eventually, however, conquered the troops of Sabinus, and subdued his partisans. *Sabinus* and

his family escaped from the massacre that followed, and in order to avoid detection, he caused a report of his death to be circulated, while he took refuge in a subterranean cave with his wife *Eponine*, who contrived to provide him and herself with the necessaries of life during ten years! at the end of which period, suspicions unfortunately arose—*Eponine* was recognised and watched, and the retreat of *Sabinus* was discovered. He was then conducted, with his wife and two young children, and brought to trial before *Vespasian*, who cruelly and revengefully put him to death with his beloved and faithful *Eponine*.

“ Oh! 'tis excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it like a giant.”

Long. $2^{\circ} 59' 23''$; lat. $47^{\circ} 52' 17''$. Sixty-seven leagues south-east from Paris.

St. Dizier is remarkable for the siege it sustained, A. D. 1544, against the Emperor *Charles V.*; and *Joinville* for possessing, in the church of *Saint Laundry*, the mausoleum of *Claude de Lorraine*. This tomb is composed of black and white marble, intermixed with porphyry, jasper, and alabaster. It is supported by four figures as large as life, representing the cardinal virtues.

In the castle of this town repose the ashes of the *duc de Joinville*, the friend and historian of *Saint Louis*, and within these same walls the no less celebrated *Cardinal de Lorraine* was born. To his machinations and horrid counsels the massacre of *Saint Barthélemy* may be attributed. This honest cardinal replied to some of his companions, who suggested the possibility of their killing Catholics in the mêlée—“*Frappez toujours, le bon Dieu choisira les siens après!*”

SECTION XXXVII.

CORSICA.

THE island of Corsica has long been an object of interest to Europe, as it was formerly to the Romans, the Carthaginians, the Goths, the Var
modern people, particularly to the



birth-place of Napoleon Buonaparte, it has acquired a degree of renown, which would have conveyed it down to posterity, though the Romans and other nations of antiquity had never existed.

Corsica was for many centuries under the Genoese yoke, which pressed so heavily on its inhabitants that they were in a constant state of revolution. In 1736, a German adventurer, of the name of *Theodore baron Neuchoff*, came to their assistance, and upon his promising a more powerful aid they elected him king. Unable to fulfil his premises, he fled to England, where he got in debt, was put in the Fleet prison, was relieved by an act of insolvency (after having registered his kingdom of Corsica for the benefit of his creditors) and died in great poverty. The Genoese then sold it to France, and *Paoli* was obliged to quit the island likewise, A. D. 1769; and in 1796, after having more than once changed masters, it was eventually added to France.

Corsica is forty-seven leagues from *Provence*, eighteen from *Tuscany*, and forty-two from the Ecclesiastical States. It is forty-six leagues long and twenty wide, from its extreme points of north and south, east and west. A chain of mountains runs through the middle of the island, the chief of which is called *Monte Romolo*. These mountains abound in lead, iron, copper and silver, alum and saltpetre. The granite of Corsica is nearly equal to the Oriental. Porphyry, jasper, talc, amianthus, emeralds, and other precious stones, are found scattered in the mountains. The principal rivers of the island may rather be called torrents, which their rapidity and the shallows in their beds render unavigable. The climate of the isle is healthy, many of the inhabitants attaining an age beyond a hundred years. They are generally short in stature; thin, but robust; vigilant, sober, but passionate and jealous; constant in love and friendship; generous, but excessively vindictive. A Corsican will travel twenty leagues in one day to attack his enemy; and if the latter be not on the expected spot, he will vigilantly await his return, even for several days, sometimes without eating or sleeping, lest he should lose the object of his journey. The Corsicans mostly walk with a gun on their shoulder and a stiletto in their belt: these are indeed the chief objects of their wishes. Men of Corsica are rarely seen tipsy; their sobriety is proverbial. Their food consists principally of acorns, which are abundant

and of an exquisite flavour, and bread. Fare of this stamp-suits a people simple in their tastes. The animals of Corsica are small, but strong and active. The rivers produce excellent freshwater fish: the western side of the island abounds with tunnies, which are found from 600 to 1200 pounds weight! The opposite side of the coast is rich in fine coral. The soil produces abundantly the olive, the citron, the lemon, the orange, and pomegranate, as well as oaks and other forest trees, particularly the *pinus altissima*.

MINES.—It seems that the mineral nitres of Corsica are confined to an iron mine at *Catalane*; but there is an abundance of the finest marbles, and the orbicular granite found in the bed of a torrent at *Finnorbo* is remarkably beautiful.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are several mineral springs in the island, to which the inhabitants resort in cases of dropsy, ophthalmia, rheumatism, &c.

SALINES.—All the salt consumed in the island proceeds from the salt-marshes at *Porte Vecchio*.

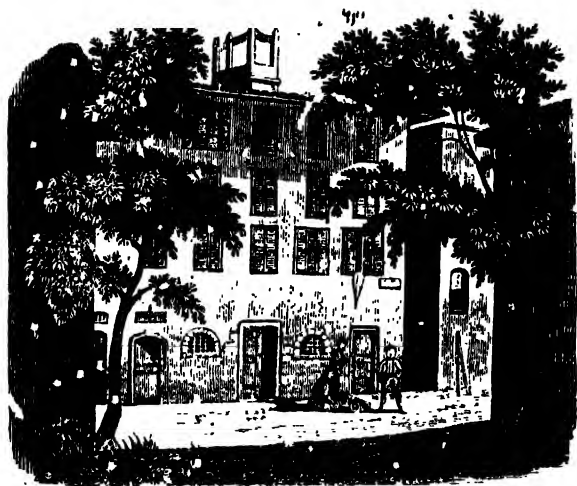
RELIGION is Roman Catholic: there is no protestant church in Corsica.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—*Paoli*; the family of *Buonaparte*; and many generals of renown.

The French have divided Corsica into two arrondissements, viz. *Golo* and *Liamore*. *Bastia* is the capital of the former, and *Ajaccio* of the latter.

AJACCIO, the principal town of *Liamore*. The streets are straight, the houses well built, and the harbour commodious and safe. *Calvi* is the next and best port after *Ajaccio*. The small island of *Rousse*, which is near the shore, possesses an excellent harbour. Bees are very abundant here; but the honey has a bitter taste, which arises from the blossoms of the box and the yew trees, which are very numerous in the island.

The country-house in which Napoleon was brought up is situated on a hill, a little above the town of *Ajaccio*: the grotto, called by his name, though in the same hill, is at a considerable distance. It was to this spot he loved to retire, far from the noise and mirth of his companions. All places are equally interesting to common minds; the beauty of scenery, even that consecrated by deeds of heroism or feats of arms, exercise no influence over their feelings or their imagination; but genius

*Maison de Napoleon.*

seeks instinctively the solitude that inspires it, the landscape that enchants it; as the plant seeks light, and the bird the groves. The grotto of Napoleon is formed by two large blocks of granite which have fallen from the mountain; and in rolling down the declivity they have come in contact with each other, and have formed a natural vault or cave. One extremity is open, the other closed by the sloping of the ground: in the interior a man may stand upright with ease. The silence of this solitary spot is only interrupted by the song of the blackbirds and the murmur of the ocean." The view embraces the town and orchards, and extends beyond it to the blue waves of the Mediterranean. The barren sinuous coast is far discernible: behind rise the high tops of *Mont Ajaccio*, surmounted in the distance by the eternal snows of *Mont Rascado*. Groves of myrtle, olives, arbutus, and laurel, which are here interspersed with pear-shaped prickly hedges (which grow to a great height), and the cactus, form very conspicuous objects in this wild scenery.

Yet had Napoleon never been born, the grotto and its romantic scenery would have been, if not unknown, at least unrenowned; but now, while time shall last, it will be visited with equal interest by the philosopher, the moralist, and the historian, the warrior and the legislator.

BONIFACCIO is built upon the top of a long narrow rock overhanging the sea: it is a small mean town. The wall which defends it on the side of *terra firma* was constructed by the Genoese; but it is the situation of Bonifaccio which is its great attraction to the traveller. The soft nature of the rock and the strength of the waves have so completely undermined the town, that it appears to stand on a broken arch, and 260 feet above the sea. It is very probable, that in the course of a few years the superior part of the rock will give way, and Bonifaccio, with its towers, its bastions, its ramparts, will fall with a tremendous crash into the Mediterranean. Many of the houses are already deserted. There are in its immediate neighbourhood a number of extraordinary caverns, which have been formed by the encroachments of the sea: there is one which completely penetrates through the *Mont Pertuisato*, as direct a line as if it were formed by the hand of man; it is so large as to be perfectly enlightened throughout. This rock is at a short distance from the shore, and rises in a pyramidal form. There are two caverns near the entrance of the port, which are grand and imposing: one of them shall be described. This grotto is open to the sea; its entrance is through a long arcade, which is terminated by a perpendicular wall, or rather rock, as white and as smooth as Parian marble; to the left there is an opening, which at first is unnoticed, but as the boat returns, its entrance, partially illumined, attracts the notice of the subterranean navigator. This branch cañal leads to the great cavern, or saloon. When the sea is rough, its action extends even to this retreat; for the waves then beat against the rocks with much violence, and the boat generally used on these occasions, being light, bounds over the billows in an extraordinary manner; but if the sea be calm and serene, this cave presents the most fascinating picture. The rocks rise in rugged peaks to the height of a hundred feet; the vaulted roof, which is open to the sky, is fringed with flowering myrtle and laurels; and on a bright day, when the sun is high, his glowing beams, intercepted occasionally by rocks, produce the most extraordinary picture that can be imagined: the sea, which is deep, if it be calm, is then blue as the outer waves, and it is scarcely possible to describe the effect which such a scene presents to a fanciful mind. No sound disturbs the tranquillity of the solitude, but the noise of the water. It is a spot the

imagination would appropriate to Amphitrite, as her retreat when, wearied by the boisterous homage of Boreas, she sought the gentle greetings of the infant zephyrs; and the Greeks and Romans would have erected temples to her honour on its summit. To those who love to sport upon the waters in silence and solitude, this cave presents a most delightful consummation of their wishes.

There is another grotto, which does not extend so far into the interior; but its entrance is grand and imposing, rising 100 feet above the level of the sea. It is surmounted by the ruins of an old convent, and by the walls and bastions of the citadel.

BASTIA.—At the entrance of the port of Bastia, and opposite the citadel, is a high rock of a remarkable form, to which sailors have given the name of *the lion*: it rises nearly to the height of the citadel. When the sea is calm, it appears like a couchant lion reposing on the waves, its fore legs extending boldly forward, its neck is raised, and its head proudly elevated; and, by a wanton freak of nature, numerous sea-weeds having lodged round its neck, a little imagination is only necessary to transform them into its mane. It is completely isolated in the bright blue sea, and on a calm sunny day it presents a very pleasing object, around which skim numerous light birds from the Italian shore. But when storms darken the sky, when the waves rage and foam, then it is infinitely more interesting. Sometimes its black base becomes visible; sometimes the head alone is to be seen, over which the spray breaks; but seldom do the waves conceal it even for a moment. It is evidently the work of nature. The rock is composed of very hard calcareous stone, the beds of which have the same inclination as the rock surmounted by the citadel, to which it is most probably united at the bottom of the sea.

SECTION XXXVIII.

COLONIES OF FRANCE.

FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN AFRICA.—ALGER.

THE territory of *Algers*, properly speaking, now denominated by the French government *Regence d'Alger*, extends from Tunis

on the east, to Morocco on the west; from the Mediterranean north to the Mount Atlas south; so that nominally this new French colony is 225 leagues long by 40 or 50 broad; but the actual territory is to this large tract of land, as Snowden is to the Himalaya mountains.

SOIL.—The soil will be best described by mentioning its productions. Those mountains which are near the sea, and are branches of the Atlas, are covered with forests, composed of five different kinds of oak, the pine, turpentine tree, cypress, the sumach, &c. Among those trees and shrubs of a minor description, are the wild olive, red juniper, myrtle, arbutus, sweet-broom, cistus, oleander, &c., and all the plants found in the south of Europe can be cultivated in some part or other of the territory. The valleys and the plains are sandy.

RIVERS.—The principal are the *Chelif*, the *Mazafren*, *Hammudouah*, *Iser*, and the *Bonberth*. These all rise in the mountains.

MOUNTAINS.—Atlas is composed of a calcareous substance and free-stone. They contain mines of lead, iron, and innabor; the lead-mines of *Ouonnoceris* produce 80 lbs. of metal in a quintal of ore.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are many mineral waters found here, hot as well as cold. Near *Oran* there is a considerable spring, from whence the waters issue from the earth boiling, but as soon as they are exposed to the air, they become cold as ice.

ROADS.—The roads of this country are fit only for horses and beasts of burthen, but the French have commenced a carriage road from *Algers* to *Metidja*.

CLIMATE.—The climate is hot, but healthy, and very pleasant in the north. The rainy season commences in October, and terminates in April, but these rains are not perpetual. The east wind blows from May to September; the rest of the year they blow from the opposite point. The south wind is hot and violent, but it blows only five or six days in July or August.

CHIEF TOWNS.

ALGERS.—This town rises like an amphitheatre from the sea; it has nearly the form of an equilateral triangle; it is surrounded by walls, and has six gates, two of which open towards the sea. The streets are narrow and gloomy, many of the opposite houses uniting themselves in the upper story. Some of these houses

though externally mean and unpornamented, are nevertheless handsomely furnished within, the apartment's large, paved with marble, ornamented with porticoes and fountains. All the windows look upon inner court; a balcony thickly trellissed is the only opening to the street.

At the entrance of every house there is a porch with two benches, in which the master of the house receives his visitors; then comes an open court, which, according to the fortune of the owner, is paved with marble of different colours and value. In summer an awning is thrown over this; around this court is a gallery, into which open many apartments, generally large, but solitary; it is rarely there is any communication between one apartment and another. At the extremity of these apartments is a platform surrounded by a balustrade, where the Moors place their beds, and this portion of the chamber is wainscoted. The wealthy inhabitants cover their walls half way up with velvet and rich silk; the remainder is stuccoed and loaded with ornaments; the floors are brick, covered with carpets; the stairs are under the porch, or open to the court, never inside the houses. The roofs of these habitations form terraces, frequently ornamented with shrubs and flowers.

There are markets for grain, and one for oil in the city; and the French have pulled down a large mosque, and constructed a square called *Pierre-du-Gouvernement*. Six windmills, barracks, hospitals, a lazaretto, an abattoir, and baths* in the Parisian fashion have been constructed. The roads opposite *Alger* offer many safe places of anchorage under the batteries.

With these advantages, all attempts at colonization have hitherto failed, and the population of the city, which was, in 1725, said to be 100,000, has been gradually diminishing. In 1825, 50,000 persons were enumerated: in 1832, they were reduced to 23,511, viz. 12,000 Moors, 5,400 Jews, 4021 Europeans, and 120 Turks.

Long. $0^{\circ} 44'$ E.; lat. $36^{\circ} 48'$ N.

The government is in the hands of a council of administration, consisting of a president in chief and seven other officers.

All matters of law among the Moors are tried by the decrees

* Numerous aqueducts supply their baths with clear water, and contribute to keep the city tolerably clean.

of the Koran, but the sentences are carried before the court of appeal of the mufti and the cadi, who also take cognizance of the causes, civil as well as criminal, of the Jews.

RELIGION.—The Roman Catholic is established, according to the ecclesiastical government, as in France. A vicar-general is or was to be appointed for its superintendence. The Jews have seventeen synagogues at *Alger*.

The Mussulmen have fifty-seven mosques. Fifty of these are public, the other seven private. The pavement of the mosques is covered with mats, upon which the devotees seat themselves. The muftis and the imams repair thither every Friday to make their exhortations to the people; there is a kind of pulpit for their accommodation, which is raised a few steps, and surrounded with a balustrade.

SCHOOLS.—There are two French schools at *Algers*, one for boys and one for girls. In every quarter of the city there are schools for Mussulman children. The master is called *hodjia*, or writer; their plan of teaching somewhat resembles the Lancasterian system.

A colonial society has been established, which publishes the *Annuaire de l'Etat d'Alger*, and a philharmonic society has introduced among the natives a growing taste for European music, and a daily paper appears, called the *Moniteur Algérien*. Of the agricultural state of the settlement, the fact that in 1832, corn for the inhabitants and hay for the cattle were imported, gives no very favourable opinion.

The other towns inhabited by the French are,—*Bone*, an ugly built town.

Bogie, a town that was fortified by *Peter of Navarre*. It is situated on a high mountain, which overlooks a deep gulf. Near the coast rises an immense rock, pierced naturally, the arch of which will permit the Levantine vessels to pass beneath it at full sail.

Oran.—This town, like *Alger*, rises like an amphitheatre; it is defended by two citadels and five castles. *Algiers* is at this time (1836) threatened by the Arabs.

SÉNÉGAL AND GOREE.

Sénégal, properly speaking, as relates to France, comprehends the islands of *Saint Louis*, *Rabaghi*, *Safal*, and *Gheber*, all

situated at the mouth of the river *Senegal*, constituting one *arrondissement*. The second *arrondissement* consists of the Isle of *Goree*, and all the coast from the bay of *Saof* to the right bank of the *Gambia*. The coast and territory nominally produce every kind of tree with which the Flora of this part of Africa abounds; it is in some parts varied with hill and dale, and ornamented with groves, although the soil is sandy. During the summer, all is dry, hot, barren, and the air suffocating; but, as soon as the rain begins, the trees are covered as by magic with foliage, and the flowering shrubs shed around sweet fragrance. These spots are, however, rare, and the settlement not tempting, otherwise it would not be confined to so small a space.

At *Goree* there is a quarry of greenish silicious stone; it is found in horizontal layers, and it is useful in buildings.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers in the settlement are, the *Rio-Gambie*, the *Rio-Grande*, and the *Senegal*.

The Moors, Morabouts, and others, inhabit the right bank of the river, the Negroes the left. The *Senegal* separates Barbary and the neighbourhood of the Great Desert from the rest of Africa. Upon the right bank, the inhabitants (Moors) are a tawny race, with aquiline noses, smooth hair, and a dry skin. The negroes on the opposite bank are black, have flat faces, woolly hair, and an oily skin. The island at its mouth, with that of *Saint Louis*, is inhabited by whites, Europeans.

The coast presents few safe roads; that of *Saint Louis* is the most important. Those of *Goree* afford safe anchorage but for eight months of the year only.

Among the valuable curiosities of the settlement are, the *Lacs de Na'ron*, near the mouth of the *Senegal*, called *Etangs-Salines de Gandiolo*. These lakes or salt marshes produce salt sufficient to supply the colony, and for all the purposes of traffic with the natives; these marshes are about 1800 feet long, and about 600 wide; and the water which composes them yields a third of its weight in salt. It covers the soil with a crust which is sometimes a foot thick, and which is renewed every

year.

These marshes are separated from the sea and the river by a bank of sand covered with heath or down of 3000 feet in superficies. The height of these waters does not vary with the tides, but they rise when it rains.

WINDS.—They blow from the north-east to the north-west, from January to April; the rest of the year from east-north-east, and even from the east. These are very hot and inconvenient from the quantity of sand they bring, and which has been known to reach vessels forty leagues distant from the coast.—From the middle of June towards September, is the season for the tornadoes, but they do not often much damage.

Of the exports from this colony, gum may be considered the chief. Three great forests, about forty leagues distant, produce it. These are called forests of *Licbar*, *Séché*, and *Afoté*; they are in the hands of the Moors, and are ten leagues distant from each other. Ox-hides, ivory, gold, and millet; the merchandise exchanged for these are, guns, gunpowder, balls, amber, coral, &c.

The value of the importations into this colony is about 3,000,000 of francs, and of the exportation produce 2,000,000. The former consist of coral, coffee, sugar, brandies, gin, rum, iron, guns, powder, calicoes, wines, glass, &c. The exports consist chiefly of timber, leather, wax, cotton, horns of cattle, tortoise-shells, gum, ivory, gold-dust, &c., and of late years cattle, sheep, and horses for the French colonies.

ÎLE-BOURBON;

A French colony in the Indian ocean. This island was first covered by the Portuguese, who soon abandoned it. In 1649, *Placcourt* took possession of it in the name of the king of France. It was then in a state of wild uncultivation; a tree, bearing a fruit somewhat resembling the medlar, being the only fruit-tree in the island. Thick woods, inhabited by numbers of birds, extended from one end of the island to the other—bats as large as a fowl, turtles, &c. In the year 1804, the English took possession of it, as well as the neighbouring island, the *Isle de France*: the latter they still retain; the former, by the treaty of 1815, was restored to France.

SOIL.—The soil is mountainous and rugged; it is evidently of volcanic production. On the sides of the cliffs and rocks the traces of lava, which form the beds of the torrents that flow between them, are evident; the mountains ramify from the centre. On the south end of the island there is a volcano still in eruption, called *Le-Grand-Pays-Brûlé*; round this, for many leagues, the earth exhibits no signs of vegetation. In many

parts the soil is indeed formed of volcanic matter, and stones mixed with the debris of plants; and this produces an excellent vegetable earth. On one side of the coast there is an immense heap of shingles, which have been drawn to one point far into the sea by the winds and waves; it is so considerable as to have received the name of *Pointe-des-Galets* (shingles). In the centre of the island is the enormous crater of an extinct volcano; it is described by a French traveller, familiar with the Alps, as far surpassing every thing he had seen of wild and fearful grandeur. From its rocky bottom rise the rivers *Mat*, *Sainte Etienne*, and *des Galets*; which, pursuing their sinuous course through beds of lava, are occasionally interrupted by fragments of rock over which they roll, forming cascades not imposing from their height, yet, from the contrast they produce with the quiet, silvery, thread-like stream, resemble falls of frosted silver, as their light spray breaks the uniformity of their liquid stream. Around this crater rise the mountains *Cimadref*, like a huge pyramid; the *Morne-les-deux-bras*, which has the appearance of being flanked with towers; the *Ras-des-Malheurs*, the *Morne-de-Touche*, and the *Piton-de-Neige*. There are twelve rades, or places of anchorage along the coast, but there is no actual port. The *Rade Saint Denis* is ten or twenty fathoms deep, and can of course receive vessels of the heaviest burthens, and, except when the wind blows north, it can be safely either entered or quitted. Of seven bays or creeks, two only will admit coasting vessels; they are called *Anse de Cascades* (in the *quartier Sainte Rose*) on the eastern side, and the *Crrique-de-la-Rivière d'abord* on the south-west. The Bay of *Saint Paul*, however, offers a retreat to vessels of war, though not very close in-land. The natural port of *Saint Giles*, on the west, requires but little aid from art, to be rendered a secure and excellent harbour, but at present this island has not been so fortunate as to possess enterprising men, and men of capital, or at least who like to risk it in public works; it is said that 2,000,000 of francs would effect this great work. There are four *étangs*, or ponds, resembling the lochs along the Scottish coast, which are productive in fish.

RIVERS.—Seventeen rivers traverse the island, of which those of *Saint Denis*, *des Pluies*, *du Mat*, *Roches*, and *Sainte Suzanne*, are the principal. These rivers all flow from the centre, and are rapid in their course, during which they form several



Cascade de la Suzanne.

beautiful and picturesque cascades. Over the *Mat* and the *Roches* there are suspension iron bridges. Two canals, for the purpose of irrigation, put in action several machines employed in manufacturing.

ROADS.—One royal road makes the tour of the coast, but it is not in all places kept up with the same care.

CLIMATE—is, generally speaking, healthy and temperate. December, January, February, March, and April are rainy months; from May to November the season is hot and dry.

WINDS.—The winds blow almost all the year from east to west; hence the island has been divided into departments called *Partie du vent*, and *Partie sous le vent*. From March to April the winds are highest; at this period all communication between the land and vessels at sea is totally interrupted. The action of the sea is no longer that of one billow succeeding each other rapidly and tumultuously; the sea rolls forward in one smooth and unbroken form, as if its whole surface were impelled towards the coast by an invisible power with a tremendous noise. This mass of waters breaks against the shore, and having exhausted its strength it subsides, and is followed by another mass equally powerful, equally noisy; and this awful scene is unceasingly repeated during the course of twenty-four hours. The hurricanes

are much less violent in the *Ile-Bourbon* than in the *Ile-de-France*. Yet in 1818, there was one which will not easily be forgotten. It was preceded by the most perfect calm by sea and land—the sky lost its clear azure tint, and became grey; on the 28th February it was perfectly black; the sun set red and rayless: at six o'clock on the following morning *les horbes-du-chat*, small clouds, the *avant-couriers* of the tempest, passed rapidly beneath the dark vault of heaven from the southwest, although not a leaf was agitated—all except these clouds was motionless. At length the démon of the storm rushed furiously from his aerial dwelling, and swept all before it—trees, rocks, the everlasting hills bowed at his presence; the birds dropped their wings—animals motionless seemed to await their doom, and man, the lord of all, acknowledged the emptiness of his title, while he saw nature herself threatened with destruction. Such moments as these are moments of humiliation, yet, when the rocks are about to fall on him, and the floods to overwhelm him, man may raise his eyes to heaven, and thus address the Deity, who rides in the whirlwind and directs the storm—

Thy image on my soul impress'd,
Of endless being is the test,
And bids eternity be mine.

Earthquakes are seldom felt in this island.

Anim. Kingdom.—The wild animals are, the goat, the hog, and the hare; rats and mice abound. The domestic animals have been imported from Europe. There is a species of the *Bos Indicus*—the ox with the hump on his back. Among the birds there are the martin, the black parroquet, turtle-doves, hoopoo, the blackbird, the cardinal, the quail, &c. Whales are seldom seen near the coast, but sharks are numerous; the tunny fish, mackarel, pilcher, thornback, &c. Among the fresh water fish are the carp, the eel, and a fish called *gouramier*, originally from China, much esteemed by the *bons-vivants*. Bees, the cochineal insect, ants, scorpions, crabs, shrimps, &c.

The vegetable kingdom varies in the Isle of *Bourbon*, as elsewhere, according to the elevation of the soil, the summits of the mountains are barren; trees do not grow at a height beyond 4500 feet above the level of the sea. The rains have an extraor-

dinary influence upon the vegetation; at *Sainte Rose* and *Saint Renoit* they are frequent, and the sandy soil is so poor, that a few days of drought, and vegetation is at a stand-still, if not destroyed. At *Saint André*, *Sainte Suzanne*, and *Sainte Marie* there is a constant verdure. In November, when vegetation is completely suspended in many parts, the rains commence, and in the course of twenty-four hours, seeds begin to develop their embryo plants, and it is positively almost possible to see the gradual unfolding of the vegetable treasures of nature in the *Partie-du-Vent*; the maize is gathered in four months after it is sown, which is succeeded immediately by another crop. In this department the black wood, the mango tree, are productive for fire-wood, yet in many parts they are destroyed, in order to plant the sugar-cane. The forests consist of eastern trees. The animals have few pasture lands; they are chiefly fed with the leaves of the cane, maize, and the young branches of the black wood; 150 vegetables contribute to the nourishment of man; 10 are medicinal; those which can be applied to the mechanic arts amount to forty-one; and hurtful plants or trees to twenty-four. The cotton tree was imported from America, the coffee-tree from Mocha, the bread-tree from *La Billodiore*, and various other fruits from the different quarters of the globe.

No mineral production is found in this island; nor quarries of any stone worth mentioning. A porous light stone is made use of in building, and there is abundance of puzzolane. Banks of coral surround the island, which makes excellent lime.

One mineral spring in the *ban-licy* of *Saint Louis* has been discovered; it contains small quantities of muriate of lime, carbonate of soda, and carbonate of lime; it has not yet been applied to any medical purposes.

Salt is procured from evaporating sea-water, for which purposes artificial salt-marshes have been formed.

CHIEF TOWNS, &c.

SAINT DENIS is the capital of the island. It is situated in the north, on the sea-coast, in the *arrondissement-du-vent*; it contains 900 houses, a government house, a church, a college, an hospital, and an armenal; and its population is about 12,000. The houses are principally built of wood, in the middle of gardens, the walls of which form the streets. A few mountains,

the water of which is good; the *Jardin-du-Roi*, which are rich in plants from all countries, and which are intersected by beautiful walks, form part of the attractions of *Saint Denis*. The *Jardin de Naturalization* is up the mountains about a league from the town.

SAINTE MARIE is a village inland; it consists of one street traversed by the royal road. Some houses are grouped together, others are dispersed in the vicinity, and from the beautiful meadows which surround it, it has received the name of the *Quartier François*. *Saint André*, *Saint Benoit*, *Sainte Rose*, *Saint Joseph*, *Saint Jean*, *Saint Louis*, and *Saint Pierre*, are all towns and villages following the line of the coast.

SAINT PAUL, on the south of the island, is the principal town of the *quartier*, and the second in the colony, and is erected between a loch and the sea; it contains about 500 houses, and its population is about 10,000. It contains, besides the hotels of the government, barracks, prisons, a custom-house, and a beautiful fountain. Its church is of stone, and the finest in the colony.

An habitation in *Bourbon* consists of a farm and country-house; when several of these are at a short distance from each other they are called a *quartier*. Some of these houses are surrounded by arcades supported by columns. Not far from the *maison de campagne* are the store-house, kitchen, stables, poultry yard, with the enclosures for the oxen, pigs, and turtle, *le camp des noirs*—the habitations of the slaves and their hospitals.

GOVERNMENT.—The government is vested in the hands of the minister of the marine and colonies. The seat of the government is at *St. Denis*. The council-general of the colony sends two delegates to Paris.

— A *cour royale*, composed of seven counsellors, three auditors, a procureur-général and a substitute, and a counsellor chosen every three years, preside over the administration of justice. Another tribunal of the same kind holds its sittings at *St. Paul*. Six justices of peace exist in the island. The assizes are held at *Saint Denis* and *Saint Paul*. Commercial affairs are decided at the civil courts. The French laws are in force.

RELIGION.—The Roman Catholic is alone acknowledged, under the jurisdiction of a *préfet apostolique* enjoying episcopal powers; the twelve communes have each a curé.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—The colony possesses one royal college, having twelve professors and 150 scholars; children of colour are admitted; two schools kept by the monks of the *Christian doctrine*, and three by the nuns of *St. Joseph*; eight schools for the boys, and seven for the education of girls.

A bank for lending money and discounting bills was established in 1825.

EXPORTS.—Wool, coffee, equal to that of *Moena*; cloves, tobacco, ambergris, coral, &c.

SAINTE MARIE.

This island is situated in the Eastern Ocean, to the east of Africa; it is separated from Madagascar by a channel, which varies from two to five leagues in breadth. The breakers on the south extend half a league in the offing, all along the eastern coast; on the west the sea is generally calm, and the coast here presents excellent anchorage for ships. From March to September the channel is frequented by whales. The aspect which the island presents is agreeable and picturesque; the undulating hills, the trees which crown their summits, and the happy situation of some villages, give at first sight a pleasing impression; but the interior of the island is sandy, stony, and incapable of culture; the valleys are marshy, and the southern hills present no other vegetation than that of the *nepenthes distillatoria*, and a few poor plants thinly scattered. The marshy lands possess a richer vegetation; bamboos, canes, and rice; and along the banks of the river, banyan and citron trees; cocoa trees and mat trees grow along the coasts. The southern parts of this island are the most healthy. *Port Louis* is the chief place of the island, and here the garrison resides. A narrow pass, six fathoms deep, leads to the port, which, though large, can only accommodate two frigates at the same time, sand and coral choking up the greater part of it. The islet *Aux Cayes* is a rock, which guards one side of the pass and the port; the sea is here very deep.

The foundations of the buildings first established on the island on this spot can be ascertained. On a mountain in the neighbourhood are the remains of the monument erected in token of the French having taken possession of the island; it is a hollow, quadrangular, truncated pyramid, reposing upon a base of

twelve square stones; upon one of the sides the arms of France and of the French India company are engraven. From the middle rises a large tree, and the dark walls are enlivened by the bright green ivy. The native population amounts to 1500, and the Europeans to 400.

The French have made establishments in Madagascar at various and distant periods, and even so late as 1831 they had possession of a small territory called *Tintingue*, but the few soldiers of the garrison who were left to guard it were glad to embark for *Sainte Marie*, for fevers and famine beset them in consequence of being blockaded by the natives, who were at this period decidedly hostile to the establishment of any European power. France, however, will no doubt endeavour at some future time to regain a footing on this fine island; and she conceives, that if this can be done, she will not be molested in her attempts by any European power, as the non-mention of this island in the treaty of 1815, she considers as a tacit acknowledgment of her right to it. All the misfortunes of the French settlers of late years are attributed to the interference of the English and the English missionaries.

FRENCH COLONY IN INDIA.

PONDICHERRY was formerly a village, purchased by the French from the King of Pejapore, in 1672. It was taken by the Dutch in 1673, who considerably increased it, and enlarged the fortifications, but, by the peace of Ryswick, they were obliged to restore it. It has since been taken and retaken by the English. In 1814, it was again restored to the French, but it has neither military establishments nor any export of colonial produce, nor is it a mart for staple commodity. Yet it is useful to France for its marine and commerce; and if it costs nothing to the mother country for its support, it is still a desirable acquisition. The possessions of France in India consist of fractions of territory separated by the vast possessions of England; they are divided into five districts, which are those of *Pondichery*, *Karikal*, *Yanam*, *Chander-nagor*, and *Mahé*.

Pondichery is on the Carnatic. *Karikal* is in the kingdom of *Tanjour*, thirty leagues south of *Pondichery*. *Yanam*, in the province of *Oriza*, is situated on the river *Godavari*. The salubrity of its situation draws thither a numerous population, man-

of these, Hindoos, have been persuaded to emigrate to the *Ile Bourbon*. Yanaon is about twelve leagues from the famous pagoda of the idol Juggernaut.

Chandernagor, upon that branch of the Ganges called Hoogly, is about eight leagues north of Calcutta, surrounded by the English possessions.

Mahé, upon the Malabar coast, in the kingdom of the Carnatic.

FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN AMERICA.—FRENCH GUYANA.

GUYANA is situated upon the eastern coast of South America, between the fourth and sixth degrees of north latitude, and between the 58th and 62nd degrees of west longitude; it is bounded on the north by English Guyana, Dutch Guyana and the Atlantic Ocean; on the east by the ocean, on the south by Portuguese Guyana, and on the west by the unexplored country of the Indians.

ASPECT OF THE COUNTRY SOIL, AND MOUNTAINS.—The upper lands are composed of sands and chalk rocks, in which there are mixed many vitrified substances, proofs of the volcanic commotions that have at some distant period overturned the face of the country. These rocks are now covered with forests of the trees denominated *hardwood*. The lands are divided into upper and lower, or *marshy*. The former are principally occupied by forests of immense extent and beauty, and they are not unhealthy. The latter consist of the cultivated lands—the marshes, the savannahs or widely-spreading meadows, which are flooded in the rainy season; and those parts which lie along the coast, forming a grove of mango trees. Far in the interior there are some high lands, which may be denominated mountains, but near the coast the higher points are those in the neighbourhood of *Cayenne*, and the Silver Mountain, near *Ogapoek*.

ISLANDS.—Some islands, or rather islets, and rocks, rise above the surface of the ocean along the coast; the principal of these is the isle of *Cayenne*, upon which stands the chief town of the colony. To the south of this are many smaller ones; that called *La Met* may be denominated a lazaret-house, for all the negroes affected with elephantiasis are sent thither.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are, the *Maroni*, *Oyapock*, *Kirou*, *Sinara*, &c. They are wide, but not deep. Some

canals have been constructed for the purpose of draining the marshy lands. That of *Forcy* is bordered on each side by plantations of sugar, coffee, cotton, &c.

ROADS there are none, all communication being by water. In some places there are short distances over which a man may travel on horseback; these lie along the banks of the rivers.

• CLIMATE, is like that of all other places seated in the torrid zone; it is divided into the dry and the wet season; the former lasts from June to September. During the rainy season the heat is more moderate, and the negroes sometimes complain of cold at this period. The European inhabitants retain their florid complexion. The climate is not subject to any violent commotions of the elements; earthquakes and hurricanes are unknown, and on the coast the only phenomenon worth mentioning is the slight *harre* at the mouth of the river, which is not, however, to be compared to that of the *Seine* and the *Gironde*.

ANIMALS.—Among the native animals of the colony are the tiger and the tapir, the projection of whose upper lip has caused it to be named the American elephant; it is gentle in its disposition, and easily tamed. The great ant-eater, two kinds of sloth, six kinds of monkeys—among these the flesh of the red monkey is considered a delicacy; the porcupine and the turtle are reared in the poultry yards. Oxen and mules are the only animals employed for agricultural purposes. The latter, when not at work, are placed in the meadows by day, but at night they are penned up. The colony possesses 150 horses, 300 mules, 250 asses, 7000 horned cattle, and 4000 sheep and goats. A bird called *hocos*, with superb plumage, has likewise been made a domestic animal; there are also fifteen different kinds of that beautiful creature the humming-bird; the *taucar*, &c. &c. Among the shell-fish, the mullet, and a fish called *bro-year*, are very abundant; these latter have their name from the circumstance of their swimming on the surface of the water in large bands, and their eyes, which projecting half an inch, are always very conspicuous; oysters, crabs, &c.; eels are found of a prodigious size, some of them electric, in the streams and ponds. The crocodile also abounds in the rivers. The larger fish are, the hammer-headed shark, the common shark, the whale, swordfish, and thresher. There is a great variety of thorn-backs; one of these is voracious, and

another is remarkable for its size and two enormous horns, which have given it the name of the *raie-diable*. Some of these have been found to weigh 1000 lb.

The rattle snake and many others of the reptile kind attain a great size.

Insects abound, and are very troublesome.

• **FORESTS.**—The forests contain 259 kinds of useful trees, and many medicinal plants. The gum tree, producing the *baume copahu*, the *canouchou* tree, the *quianadou*, the seeds of which furnish a kind of wax which may be applied to the same purposes as bees' wax; a great variety of palm, the *roule* tree, bread-tree, &c. European plants do not, however, thrive in this climate; indeed, the cauliflower and the potato (which is strange, this being an American plant) cannot be raised; the common cabbage will not form a head, and the onion root does not produce the round edible bulb as in Europe. Among the plants of value cultivated are the sugar cane, the *racou* (a tinctorial plant), cotton, the cacao, and vanilla; coffee, cinnamon, pepper, and cloves. A clove plantation is a beautiful object. The trees are lofty, of a dark green, and when in blossom they regale two senses at once, for the eye is not less gratified than the olfactory organs by the most delicious perfumes. The tea plant has been transported from China to Guyana; it bears promise of success after a trial of three years. In 1833, 442 kilogrammes of tea of excellent quality were imported into France. Some Chinese have been induced to settle in Guyana.

There are two royal establishments, the one at *Wisit*, the other at *La Gabrielle*, for the encouragement of the culture of plants which are not indigenous to the soil of Guyana. In 1819, the crop of cloves at *La Gabrielle* produced to the government the sum of 250,000 francs (£10,416. 16s. 4d.).

No mine has yet been discovered in Guyana, though there are some traces of iron.

French Guyana is divided into *quarters* or *communes*, viz. *Caïenne*, *Ile de Cayenne*, *Canal*, *Tour-de-Pile*, *Tonnégrande*, *Mont Sinéry*, *Roura*, *Iracoubo*, *Oyapock*, *Approuague*, and *Baye*.

PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

CAYENNE, in an island of the same name, upon the right bank of the river *Cayenne*, in the Atlantic Ocean. It is the seat

of the colonial government, and was founded in the year 1635. It is divided into the new and the old town; the latter is small and ill built, and contains no building worth mentioning, except those belonging to the government. The barracks for the soldiery are in the fort; the governor's house formerly belonged to the Jesuits; it occupies two sides of a square, which is planted with fine orange-trees, the perfume of which delights the smell while the eye is enchanted with the quick darting movements and brilliant evanescent colours of multitudes of humming-birds. The new town is composed of large wide streets, intersecting each other at right angles; they are likewise well paved, and several houses belonging to private individuals are well built and handsome; a fine church and several extensive shops and warehouses give a lively, animating appearance. There is a botanic garden in the neighbourhood. Cayenne is the centre of commerce of the colony: it wants quays, however, and the anchorage is so shallow, that vessels of commerce can alone enter the port. The other towns are, *Approuague*, *Ouyapock*, *Courau*, and *Sinamory*. These towns are all rising into notice, but at present they are not sufficiently important to detain the reader with their description.

The government of Guyana is vested in a commissary-general of the marine; the privy council consists of the governor, the intendant, the director of the interior, the attorney-general, two colonial counsellors, colonial inspector, and a secretary of the archives.

The administration of justice is executed by a *cour royale*, formed of five counsellors, one of whom is president; two auditors, who are *counseillers auditeurs*; an attorney-general, and a clerk; a tribunal of the first instance composed of a judge royal, a lieutenant judge, two judges and three, a king's attorney, and a clerk. Besides these, there are two *tribunaux de pair*, one at Cayenne, and one at Sinamory.

Guyana has a representative assembly, composed of sixteen members elected by the six electoral colleges. The colonial council nominates a delegate of the colony to reside at Paris, as a link which unites them to the French government.

According to a law passed in 1833, all individuals born free, whether natives or negroes, equally enjoy the rights of civil and political liberty.

RELIGION.—The Roman Catholic is the only one exercised in Guyane. A *préfet apostolique*, invested with the powers of a bishop, has the superintendence of all ecclesiastical affairs.

HOSPITALS.—Besides the naval hospital, there is at Cayenne a *hospice de charité*. An *officier de santé* of the first class is charged with the *service de santé*.

There are two schools in Guyane.

A detachment of the seventh company of the *marines*, and a half battalion of the first regiment of infantry, are the only troops employed for the defence of this large colony.

The population is estimated at 3760 free whites, 19,102 blacks and slaves.

The exports of Guyane, in 1831, were as follows:—

	Francs.	Cents.
Sugar, molasses, rum, syrups, &c.	941,793	82
Cloves	160,231	0
Cotton	287,949	18
Bacon	96,036	50
Coffee, cacao, cinnamon, vanilla, nutmegs, pepper, pimento, indigo, ebony, and wood for building	147,284	45

1,633,294 95

Importations from France, in 1831	943,745	2
From the colonies and fishery	10,082	50
In French ships from foreign countries	11,907	80
In foreign vessels	640,365	47

1,715,100 79

During this same year the exportations amounted to 1,709,842 francs; at which period the balance of commercial product, as related to the mother country, was, in favour of the colony, 536,284 francs, 45 cents.

The taxes are levied in this colony, as in France, by direct and indirect taxes.

The portion of taxation, in 1834, was valued at 918,250 fr.

The direct taxes consist of a tax on slaves which are not employed in the culture of the land; export duties on coffee, cotton, cloves, molasses, rum, as a compensation for

exemption of labouring slaves; the tax on houses and on patents.

The indirect taxes comprehend the duties for registering deeds and mortgages, public sales, pilotage, lazaretto, abattoir, the tax on gunpowder, taxes on bakerhouses, public houses, permits, bearing arms, and on passports.

FRENCH FISHERIES.

The islands of *Saint Pierre* and *Miquelon*, *Terre Neuve*, *Newfoundland*. The small island of *Saint Pierre* and the two of *Miquelon* form a small group situated to the south of Newfoundland, at the mouth of the gulf of Saint Lawrence. The coasts of these islands are low and flat, and well calculated for drying fish; they belong to the government, who farm them to the inhabitants on certain conditions. Some trees, among these fruit trees, have been transplanted from France, and flourish tolerably well. The woods contain many crab trees, and here the raspberry and strawberry abound, giving out a fine perfume, for they are excellent. There are also two vegetables, the *vacinium hispidulum*, and the *tedum latifolium*, which are very useful to the inhabitants, who from their leaves make an infusion which they drink instead of tea. It is a pleasant beverage, and has this particular advantage, that it has no deleterious effect upon the nervous system.

Among the mineral substances there is found one somewhat resembling talc, and yellow metal carbide which strike fire with iron, and give out a sulphureous smoke.

There is a little town in *St. Pierre*, the seat of the government, and a village in each of the other islands, besides many habitations scattered about two and three together.

The permanently resident population of this colony amounts to about 891, but during the fishing season it may be reckoned at 1491. These are all fishermen—men, women, and children are all employed, either in fishing or in preparing and curing the fish for exportation. There is but little actual money in the colony—almost every thing is exchanged for cod. Biscuits, flour, salt, wine, brandy, sails, cordage, iron, fishing utensils, linen, stockings, shoes, &c. which are brought from France, are all paid for in cod. The government is in the hands of an officer of marine,

FRENCH FISHERIES.

assisted by three other officers. The police of the port and the coast is in the hands of a captain of the port. They are assisted in their duties by two *tribunaux du paix*—a *tribunal de premiere instance*, a council of appeal.

There is, even in this remote and small colony, an office for enregistering mortgages.

TERRE NEUVE.—The coasts of Newfoundland, upon which France has a right to erect temporary buildings for the purpose of carrying on the cod fishery, are on the southern sides of the island. The principal bays are, the *Baie Blanche*, *Baie-aux-Lièvres*, and the *Baie Saint Georges*. The last is most frequented by the inhabitants of *Saint Pierre* and *Miquelin*. The environs of this bay are inhabited by native Canadians; they live in a state of miserable filth and dirt. They are of the tribe *Micos* or *Siroquois*.

The *Basques* are supposed to have first discovered Canada, and in fact to have first established the whale fishery. So late as the fifteenth century, whales were numerous in the Bay of Biscay; but a successful war against them drove them from this vicinity to the French coast. In 1788, some Americans of the Nantucky tribe were persuaded to accompany a French vessel to Dunkirk, in order to assist in the preparations for recommencing the whale fishery, but the troubles of the times impeded the undertaking. In 1803, seven vessels were fitted out at Dunkirk, but, on the rupture of the peace of Amiens, they were captured by the English, and another stop was put, for a time, to the French whale fishery. In 1814, however, the enterprise was renewed, and English and Dutch sailors, accustomed to the pursuit of whales, were hired, and premiums were offered as an encouragement to the owners of vessels to turn their attention to this important branch of commerce; the premiums given even now amount to the sum of 3,000,000 francs annually.

From official documents it has been ascertained, that between 1817 and 1831, 120 vessels, from 250 to 450 tons burthen, have quitted the French ports for the southern seas, and nineteen only for the northern Atlantic, in Davis's Straits, Baffin's Bay and off the coast of Greenland. The southern fishery is the more profitable. The cod fishery, in 1833, employed 418 vessels, manned by 11,310 mariners. This service employs a multitude of workmen of every description.

The mean produce of the cod fishery in this French settlement is 80,000,000 Kilogrammes or 60,000,000 lbs. weight English

ANILLES FRANÇAISES

GUADELOUPE

The Colonian Archipelago, or Antilles, is situated in the Atlantic Ocean, occupying, in a crescent-like form, the space between North and South America. The Spaniards divided them into *islands of the wind*, and *islands under the wind*. Cuba, Hayti, and Porto Rico, are called Great Antilles, and come under the denomination of *islands under the wind*. The Little Antilles and the Caribbee Islands are ranked under the first denomination, of *islands of the wind*.

Among the islands belonging to France are, *Martinique, Guadalupe, Grande Terre, Marie Galante, Saintes, Desnades, and Saint Martin*.

GUADELOUPE is upwards of sixty miles long, it is divided into two parts by a channel not quite a league and a half long, and from thirty to eight yards broad, called the Salt river, a vessel for boats of fifty tons burthen. The northern part of the island is called *Grand Cul-de-sac*, and that on the south, *Petit Cul-de-sac*; the eastern part is called *Grande Terre*, the western part is called *Guadeloupe*, properly speaking. A ridge of mountains divides this into east and west, the former is named *Basse Terre*, the latter, *Haute Terre*. The cold on these mountains is so intense, that nothing but fern grows upon them, and the useless trees covered with moss. This chain is the Sulphur Mountain, which is volcanic; its crater is 100 feet wide, from whence issue smoke and sparks. A number of streams flow from these mountains, and fertilize the plains which lie stretched at their feet. The soil is ten times more fruitful than that of Europe. The fig-tree produces fruit several times in the year, the vine, which is not much cultivated, twice and three times in the course of fourteen months. Among the native plants are the *jaguer*, the *sapotilier*, cocoa tree, palm, mango, common apple, finest mahogany, tamarind, calabash, &c., *copaïve*, aloes, apricot of the Antilles, pepper, nutmeg, guavas, &c. *aymarus*, pimento, artichokes, have been particularly successful admirably. The common grass is cultivated

for the horses, who eat it green all the year round. Among the medicinal plants is the ricin, from the berries of which an aperient oil is expressed, and the plant *ipeocachamba*. The flowers most common are the jacinth, the rose, the clove, and the tuberose. In the forests of all these islands the colossal fern, sensitive-trees, thorny wax trees, enormous bamboos, and all kinds of wood used in dyeing, as well as those employed in inlaying and cabinet-making, attain a great size, and are exceedingly numerous.

SOIL.—No mine has been discovered in the Antilles, yet there are traces of sulphur, manganese, titan, bismuth, oxyde of copper, petrol, bog earth, clay, ochre, silex, magnesia, alumine, chalk under various forms, prismatic basalts, lava, puzzolane, &c. There are also many mineral and warm springs.

ANIMALS.—The indigénous animals are rare, the *manilla*, a kind of pedimene; the *ayou*, resembling a rabbit, and a rat which grunts like a pig; and the musk rat: the animals of Europe have been introduced, but they evidently deteriorate in the course of time. The common rats and mice of the old quarter of the globe have multiplied to such a degree as to be a perfect pest. There are persons employed to hunt them, with little dogs trained for that purpose.

BIRDS.—Partridges, red, black, and grey; turtle doves, ortolans, thrushes, pigeons, a kind of pie, with red beak and legs, yellow, blue, and white striped bodies and wings, many aquatic birds, the flamingo, pelican, the frigate, the crab-heron, &c. Among the smaller of the feathered race is the humming-bird, and the *oiseau mouche*.

REPTILES.—The reptiles consist of lizards, guanas, adders, and serpents; but it is only in *Martinique* and *Saint Lucia*, that their bite is mortal; and it has been affirmed, that if the serpent of *Martinique* be transported to *Guadeloupe*, it loses its venom! The negroes of the former place possess the medicinal art of healing the wound inflicted by them.

FISH.—There are many crustaceous animals in the Antilles; among these the violet, the tricolor, and the fire-coloured crab are remarkable. The mountain crabs are likewise curious and interesting in their habits; they live in the hollows of trees or the cavities of the hills in the dry season. When the rains com-

generally they divide themselves into companies, and descending the *Morins*, they proceed towards the sea shore; if the rain cease, they creep into holes or moist places, and there they remain until the rain recommence. On reaching the sea, they eagerly enter it, and appear to take great pleasure in bathing and cleaning themselves; they deposit their eggs on the sea shore where they are soon hatched and when the little crabs have attained sufficient strength to travel, they recommence their inland journey, in companies, as before. They are good to eat, but the inhabitants keep them in a fasting state for two or three days lest they should be poisoned, because these crabs feed much upon the poisonous fruit of the *maneuillier*. The coasts abound with black and white corals, many other zoophytes, and beautiful shells. The *byrcin*, which is sometimes fifteen or eighteen inches long, serve as trumpets or conques for the negroes; the *river* *Chinese* corals is abundant, but small, yet delicious. The fish are numerous; the whale, dolphin, porpoise, shark, a colossal pike, sometimes eight feet long; sword-fish, flying fish, thorn-back of an immense size; gold fish, a sort of bladder fish, which, if touched, produces the same effect as the torpedo; torpedoes of every description, &c. &c. In the months of August, September, and October, there is a very small fish caught at the mouth of the rivers, which is considered a great delicacy; it is not much larger than the clove, which it resembles in form.

INSECTS.—Insects are numerous, beautiful, and troublesome. The bees, which are small, have no stings; they are not kept in hives, but make their own residence in the hollows of trees; the fire-fly, the lantern-fly, and the troublesome mosquito. The small insect called *rhiquit* is still more to be dreaded; it deposits its eggs between the two upper skins, where they soon vivify, and, unless extracted, they produce wounds, and, if in the feet, of so venomous a nature as to make the parties lame who are bitten by them. The *beetle* and the woodlouse commit great depredations in the habitations, and, in 1775, they committed such ravages in Martinico, that 1,000,000 francs was offered as the recompense of him who should discover any effectual remedy against their ravages.

There is little difference in the natural productions of these lands; therefore this enumeration may apply to them all.

ROADS.—There are nine royal roads in the island; as there are no bridges over the streams, in the rainy season travelling is at a stand-still.

RELIGION.—Roman Catholic alone.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—Generals *Dugommier* and *crovert*; Colonel *Saint Georges*; the painter *Lethière*; the poet *Edmond*; his nephew, *Campehon*, author of *l'Enfant Prodigue*, and successor to *Delille* in the *Académie Française*.

The colonial government of *Guadeloupe* comprehends the islands of *Guadeloupe*, *Marie Galante*, *Saintes*, *La Désirade*, and two-thirds of the island of *Saint Martin*.

The island of *Guadeloupe* is divided into two territorial *arrondissements*, which are subdivided into parishes or quarters. Each *arrondissement* contains a town and a certain number of villages.

Arrondissements.	Capitals.	Villages.	Quarters of Parish.
La Guadeloupe	Basse Terre	6	15
La Grande Terre	La Pointe-à-Pitre	5	9

The governor is a general of marines. His powers are the same as those of all the governors of the French colonies, and the minor officers of the government are the same likewise.

The defence of *Guadeloupe* and its dependencies is committed to a garrison sent from France, and the gendarmerie of the island. The national guard is numerous, and well kept up.

Free population at the commencement of 1833 . . . 23,365
Slave ditto . . . 99,464

122,819

	France.	Cents.
In 1832, the imports from France amounted to . . .	14,579,841	90
From the colonies and fisheries . . .	644,178	15
Total . . .	15,224,018	11

Exports for France . . .	14,803,723	80
French colonies . . .	17,840	0
Foreign countries . . .	423,158	2
	15,244,721	82

GOODS RE-EXPORTED.

	Francs	Cents
French	1,377,443	91
Foreign	63,469	25
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	1,440,913	16

The importations consequently exceed the exports by 1,060,200 francs, 82 cents.

The usual buildings, which constitute what is called a *habitation*, are houses for the negroes, each containing two apartments, occupied either by a man and his wife, or two single negroes. The hospital, which is surrounded by a wall to prevent all communication with the healthy part of the community. The sugar-house, containing a mill called *verrou*; coppers, turners, clarifying vessels, drying apartments, which are hermetically sealed; distilling apparatus for making rum, male stables and magazines; the cooper's workshop and the *grande-case*, the house of the planter, with all customary appendages of comfort.

Every *habitation* has an *embarcadere*, or embarking place on the sea-coast, and a canoe attached to it.

NEGROES AND THEIR LABOUR.—Those negroes who work in the sugar-plantations are denominated by the word *atelier*. They are divided into classes—the *grands ateliers* and the *petits ateliers*. The former consists of the stronger part of the community, upon whom all the hardest labour naturally falls. At five o'clock they are roused from their slumbers, when prayers are read, and the negroes number; then labour extends from six in the morning to six in the evening; they have an hour's leisure at breakfast time, from eight till nine, and at dinner time they have two hours' repose. At six o'clock prayers are again read, and the imposed labour of the day is ended. Some negroes employ their leisure in labour for themselves, and some yield themselves up to indolent ease.

PUNISHMENT, FOOD, AND CLOTHING OF THE SLAVES.—Every owner is forbidden to carry a stick, lest he strike a slave in a passion. Twenty-nine strokes are the limited number of lashes for punishment. When the negro's crimes affect the community, he is placed in the hands of the government; a fund called *leges justiciæ* indemnifies the planter for the loss of his slave. ~~When~~ he is condemned to suffer death.

Their food consists of three pounds of cod, two pots and a half of flour, and a gallon of syrup, a week. Their annual supply of clothes consists of two shirts, a pair of coarse cloth pantaloons, and a large hat. These are the compulsory allowances.

MARTINIQUE.

This is a fine island, presenting at first sight an assemblage of high mountains united together by inferior heights, which are called in the island *Mornes*: in the centre rises a group of three cones, the *Pitons du Carbet*, the height of which is 5295 feet. On the summit of these mountains vast quantities of shells are found.

SOIL.—The soil is varied, and bears traces more or less of volcanic agency. In the environs of the *Mont Pelée* the soil is composed of the debris of pumice stones, mingled with that of vegetables. In other parts the earth is red, friable, sandy, and less productive. On the south the lands are composed of a fat, clayey, strong soil: the north-west is strong and barren.

The coasts are, generally speaking, difficult of access: the port of *Trinite*, the bay of *Morin*, *Saint Pierre*, and *Fort Royal*, are nevertheless good.

FORESTS.—The mountainous regions are covered with forests of ancient date; many parts are so interwined with ivy and parasitical plants that they are impenetrable. The view presented by these forests, where they are traversable, is romantic, picturesque, and beautiful, in the highest degree. These forests and the uncultivated lands occupy one-third of the island: the former are infested by serpents.

RIVERS.—There are many streams in Martinique, which are useful in the manufacture of sugar, but they are not navigable.

MINERAL WATERS.—There are many hot mineral springs in the island, which are much frequented.

The administration of civil and judicial justice resembles that of *Guadeloupe*, as do its military and religious government.

There is at *Martinique* a medical society of emulation. There is also a printing-office, and an official daily paper and an annual are published in the colony: a colonial garden for the naturalization of plants from the East Indies, a nursery of coffee-trees; and a fish-pond, for the propagation of a fish called *Géran*, brought from the *île of Bourbon*.

The free population	in 1833 amounted to	28,464
Slave ditto		2,273
		<hr/> 111,337

Matinique is divided into four territorial arrondissements which are subdivided into quarters or parishes.

Chief Towns.	Parishes
Fort Royal	8
Le Morin	6
La Trinité	7
St. Pierre	6

The governor's house, called *Belle Vue*, is in the environs of *Fort Royal*, which contains also the barracks, magazines, hospitals, arsenal, prison, and the hotel of the *Préfet Apostolique*.

REMARKABLE PERSONS.—The Empress *Josephine*, *Alexandre Beauharnois*; *Chapuis*; *Moreau de St. Mery*, *Barras*, nephew of the famous *Barras*, &c.

NOTES

(A.)

FUNERAL OF THE KINGS OF FRANCE IN THE
SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

As soon as the king was dead, a herald at arms issued out, from the balcony of the palace, "The king is dead. Long live the king." This cry, three times repeated, is in use in these days. The face of the monarch was then soaked with oil and covered with plaster, from which his effigy was then made in wax or white lead. The body was then embalmed, and solemnly exposed upon a bed of state, surrounded by lighted tapers, and priests singing penitential psalms. The corpse was then put into a leaden coffin, upon which was placed this effigy of the deceased monarch magnificently attired. During forty days this figure was waited upon, at the usual hour of meals, as if at table, where his officers carved, helping him to dainties, and pouring out wine for him to drink, as custom was when he was alive. At the expiration of this quarantine the coffin was carried to *Notre Dame de Paris*, from whence it was finally conveyed to the vaults of *Saint Denis*. During its progress from the one church to the other, all the streets through which it passed were hung with black, enlightened at different intervals by large white wax torches. The Capuchin friars opened the procession, bearing their massive wooden crosses and wearing a crown of thorns; then came the other religious communities in their divers costumes; then five hundred of the poor, in mourning, headed by their bailiffs; then the courts of justice, accompanied by serjeants; then the members of parliament, in their habits of ceremony; these were followed by the dignified clergy, clothed in purple and gold; the funeral car then appeared, drawn by horses caparisoned in black velvet palls, ornamented with broad white satin crosses; the king's household, in long white mourning cloaks, closed the procession. In the midst of incense, songs, and lights, the coffin was introduced into the church, where it was placed upon a lofty pedestal, and the office for the dead commenced: this service continued many days, and it was not until the last day that the coffin was solemnly lowered into the royal vault, where all the great dignitaries, as if to render homage to the dead, came and deposited the several insignia of their office. Then the herald at arms cried aloud, "The king is dead. Long live the king." After which the assembly silently withdrew.

Some of these ancient usages have been followed at the funeral of the *Bourbon* princes who have died in France since

(B.)

CORONATION OF LOLIS XIV

THE interior of the church of Saint Remy was prepared with extraordinary magnificence. Round the choir, the upper galleries, the nave, and the two wings, were suspended the most beautiful tapestries of the crown, the steps of the altar and the pavement of the choir were covered with rich Turkey carpets, the images of the saints and, the images of rulers, littered with precious stones, sacred vases of gold and diamonds sparkled in profusion and superb draperies of white satin worked in gold adorned the great altar. The pulpit was covered with purple velvet, it was lined with gold, and eight feet from the altar, a magnificent dais was raised for the reception of the king. Under this dais decorated with the same materials as the pulpit was placed a arm chair for the young monarch, two cushions for him when he knelt to be crowned, and a table on which he was to prostrate himself when he was crowned. Behind the dais were armchairs also for the constable, the chancellor, the lord-steward of the king's household, the great chamberlain, and the first gentleman of the bedchamber. To the right of the altar the princes of the church and the ecclesiastical peers were to have their seats, to the left were the royal princes and the peers of the kingdom facing the choir, on a platform raised three steps from the floor, was placed the throne, in the most conspicuous part of the church, and magnificent galleries were prepared for the princesses and ladies of the court.

All these superb preparations being completed, the young king, escorted by his army, at the doors of the cathedral, on Saturday, 6th of June, 1654. On the day preceding that of the coronation, he came to attend Mass, and heard them on his knees, surrounded by the dignified clergy. ^{There} ~~There~~ ^{present} two cardinals, three archbishops, and fifteen bishops.

The next day, the bishop of Soissons, and the other prelates who were to officiate at the church, clothed in magnificent robes, they placed themselves near the pulpit. An hour afterwards the royal princesses arrived, that of England and a crowd of lords of the court. At the command of the bishop of Soissons, a deputation, allowed by bishops carrying sacred relics, went to fetch the king. The groups of Beauvais and of Chalons, who were of the party, having reached the door of the royal chamber, they knocked. Without opening it, the duke de Joyeuse, grand chamberlain, said, "What do you want?"—"The king," replied the duke de Beauvais. "The king sleeps," replied the grand

a few moments' silence, the same question was answered, but the third time, when by the Emperor's command the Emperor XIV, son of the late Emperor, had given us for a king," the doors of the palace opened, and the king, reclining on a bed of state, and wearing a white robe, covered with a red tunic, was seated on a throne. After having

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prayer after the monarch, and said a prayer, the two bishops, on the right side and the other on the left, raised the king from his bed and led him in grand procession to the church, surrounded by singers and priests chanting sacred hymns. The king, entering the choir, prostrated himself before the bishop of Soissons, who represented the archbishop of Reims, then he was conducted to the arm-chair of which we have already spoken.

After the *Veni Creator*, the procession which had been at the *Sainte Annpoule* advanced to the foot of the steps of the principal portal. The grand prior of the abbey of *Saint Remi*, mounted on a white horse magnificently caparisoned, appeared carrying the sacred phial. Several knights held over his head a canopy of silver molair; and the monks of *Saint Remi* walked before the sacred object which was attended to their cure. The bishop of Soissons advanced to receive it from the hands of the grand prior, who said to him before giving it:—"My lord, into your hands I put this precious treasure, sent by the great *Saint Remi* for the coronation of *Charis* and the kings his successors; but I beseech you, according to ancient custom, to restore it into my hands after the coronation of Louis XIV. our king."

The bishop who was officiating laid the *anmpoule* on the altar, where it was exposed to all eyes, while the king pronounced the oath to protect the church and to respect the canonical privileges. The king standing, the bishops called upon the lords and people with a loud voice, to declare whether they accepted Louis XIV. for their king; and after their consent was obtained, which was only manifested by a respectful silence, the king pronounced the oath his ancestors had sworn before him, viz. to protect his people and abide by the laws.

The duke de Joyeuse, in quality of grand chamberlain, then advanced and put on the king's feet a pair of purple velvet boots, ornamented with golden *fleurs-de-lis*, and *Monsieur* put on the golden spurs brought from *St. Denis*, and took them off almost immediately. They then proceeded to bless the sword of *Charlemagne*, and the bishop, drawing it from the scabbard, placed it in the hands of the king, pronouncing the superb discourse:—"Accipe hunc gladium," &c., the precepts of which kings should never forget, for they point out to them the real use to which they should apply their strength.

The bishop then began to prepare the sacred unction. "In the first place," says the chronicle of the times, "he placed the golden cover of the chalice of *Saint Remi* on the centre of the altar, and the grand prior of *Saint Remi*, having received from the treasurer, who assisted him, the silver key of the small gilt box with precious stones, in which the sacred *anmpoule* is hidden, he opened it and took out this precious gift of Heaven into the hands of the bishop of Amiens, the officiating deacon, gave it to the bishop of Soissons, the latter receiving from the grand prior a golden needle, with which he took from the *anmpoule* a bit no larger than a grain of wheat; this he placed on a silver-gilt paten, or cover; then having returned the *Sainte Annpoule* to the said grand prior, to replace it as before in the shrine, he, with a silver needle, took of the sacred chrism with the balsam of his fingers on the forehead of the

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The king prostrated himself, while the priest, many and implored the blessing of Heaven in his hands. The ceremony of coronation, taking some of the unction with his thumb, and touching the head of the king, his chest, both on the two shoulders, upon the right shoulder and the left, and the hands and joints of both arms. At every unction he pronounced the words: "I crown you king, with this sanctified oil, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost." The king was then robed in his royal mantle, and the gloves and ring, which had been blessed, and the sceptre, and the hand of justice, were presented to him. The Chancellor, having called the peers and grand dignitaries, invited them to give their attention to a great act which was now to be performed. The bishop of Sens placed the crown of Charlemagne on the head of the young king, the peers advancing with extended hands, as if to support it.

This long ceremony being ended, the king crowned and the sceptre in his hand, was at last led to the throne. The bishop then exclaimed, "Vive le Roi en éternité!" The peers replied, "Vive le Roi!" And the gates of the chancel having been opened, the king and queen, shuttings of "Vive le Roi" from the choir. At this moment golden medals were thrown among the people, and the birds of the king gave flight to a number of white birds, a mark that the time of justice and liberty was come.

After mass, the offering, and communion the king was conducted with great pomp to the palace to assist at a grand festival. The dignitaries and the principal lords who had assisted at the ceremony took seats at the banquet.

The next morning, Louis XIV. after having heard mass at the abbey of Saint Remi, entered the park, where he found about two thousand six hundred invalids assembled, whom he touched, one after the other, with his right hand, making the sign of the cross upon their forehead. The choir, a veil from one chirk to the other, at the same time, uttering these holy words: "Quia tu gueris, Rex te torques."

These celebrated ceremonies terminated by a general amnesty for criminals of every condition who were prisoners at Blois, and these amounted to upwards of six thousand.

ERRATA

At page 172, for *coyrt* read *court*
mechanist read *mechanics*
Joseph read *Joseph*
and read *and*
met read *met*
per read *per*
 At page 173, for *delicious* read *delicious*
famous read *famous*
ponder read *ponder*
 At page 172, for *arguer* read *arguer*

